MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 NOVEMBER 1982

Lebanon

U.S.-Israel-Lebanese Contacts -- After a 17 November meeting in Jerusalem between U.S. Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, sources close to the talks disclosed that problems concerning the delegations and agenda for the proposed Israeli-Lebanese talks have not yet been resolved, Jerusalem radio reported. Earlier, the radio revealed that Israel and Lebanon have recently resumed direct contacts; Israel's Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche met secretly in Beirut with one of President Amin al-Jumayyil's close advisers.

Israeli Withdrawal Conditions -- Israel and Lebanon must sign a written agreement on security arrangements between the two countries, Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. Under Israel's proposed arrangements, the first stage will be the withdrawal from Lebanon of all the 7,000 "terrorists," along with their offices, Sharon said. In the second stage, the Syrians will withdraw their forces from the Lebanese mountains to the Al-Biqa' Valley and be replaced by a multinational force. Only then will the IDF withdraw to a line 45 km from Israel's northern border, Sharon emphasized, and this will not take place before Israeli prisoners and bodies of Israeli dead are returned. The IDF will then hold the 45-km line until the security arrangements with Lebanon are signed. These arrangements will provide for a Lebanese Army presence in the south, a ban on the deployment of artillery in the area, and joint supervision by the Lebanese Army and the IDF, Sharon stated.

While Sharon described the second stage as the evacuation of foreign forces, he reportedly did not mention a Syrian evacuation of the Al-Biqa' Valley. In another development concerning Israel's attitude toward the Syrian presence, Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir announced in New York that Israel is now ready for a disengagement of forces with Syria before talks begin with the Lebanese Government, Jerusalem radio reported. Such a disengagement would permit the Lebanese Army to enter the zone between the IDF and the Syrians, he said.

Al-Wazzan on Syrians, Palestinians -- The Syrian and Palestinian presence in Al-Biqa' and the north is not in itself a problem because contacts with these parties make the Lebanese Government confident that a Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal will occur at the "appropriate time" and that nobody will give Israel a pretext to continue its occupation, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan stated in remarks reported by Beirut radio. During their recent official talks, the Saudi and Lebanese leaders held identical views on the question of withdrawals and on the Syrian and Palestinian presence, Al-Wazzan affirmed.

Security Situation -- After an Israeli force was ambushed by RPG fire south of Beirut, the Israelis returned fire and killed one "terrorist," the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. The IDF unit sustained no casualties. Later in the day, Israeli forces entered the Ash-Shuf town of 'Alayh and imposed a curfew in an attempt to halt renewed fighting between Phalangist and Druze militias, Jerusalem radio reported. ITIM said the fighting stopped following IDF contacts with both sides.

Israel on Tyre Disaster -- Following the collection of all available evidence on the explosion at Israel's military building in Tyre, the Israelis have concluded that no bomb exploded in or beside the building and that the disaster was caused by a gas leak, Jerusalem radio reported.

West Bank

Israel's Acting West Bank Civilian Administration Chief Col Yig'al Karmon has told Israeli governors in the area that West Bank notables sympathetic to Jordan should be "neutralized to the maximum and brought to great dependence on the civilian administration," the Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ reported. However, Jerusalem radio subsequently asserted that these directives are invalid since they were not approved by other appropriate authorities, including Defense Minister Sharon.

PLO

Damascus Meeting -- The Palestinian Central Council will meet in Damascus on 19 November, Aden Voice of Palestine radio reported. The radio added that this meeting will be important because of the current situation in Palestinian affairs.

PNC Meeting Postponed -- The Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting has been postponed for a short time in order to allow all PNC members to attend, Baghdad Voice of PLO stated. It added that some Palestinians are being prevented from leaving Israel to attend the meeting.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Jordan's King Husayn, the head of the Arab League delegation currently in France, met with French President Francois Mitterrand to explain the Fes summit's peace plan, AFP reported. King Husayn described the meeting as "very encouraging and useful" and said that there were more points of agreement than disagreement between the French and Arab positions, AFP added. On the issue of mutual recognition between the Arab states and Israel, a spokesman for President Mitterrand said the French side had stressed the necessity for mutual recognition, a goal which King Husayn said he believes can be reached once all parties definitely embark on the path for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, AFP added.

King Husayn discussed the outcome of his meeting with the French president in separate meetings with the other delegates of the seven-member committee, Amman radio reported. During his meeting with the Syrian foreign minister, he discussed Syrian-Jordanian relations as well as the committee's mission, the radio revealed.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces completely defeated Iranian offensives in both the Mandali and Maysan areas; following fierce clashes, almost 4,000 Iranians were killed in both theaters, a military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio reported. The communique added that the Iraqi Air Force suffered no losses in any of the combat missions flown in either area. A military communique braodcast by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces control the heights in the Mandali area and that one group of Iranian troops entered the town of Mandali, dealt "heavy blows" and returned to their new strategic positions. Some 650 Iraqis were killed or wounded in the other offensive launched by Iran, Tehran radio reported.

Afghanistan

Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad cited by AFP spoke of a "dramatic increase" in resistance activity in Kabul last week with bombs killing more than 20 people in 3 restaurants and a rising number of shootings. The report also said some of the bodies removed from the Salang Pass tunnel disaster "were riddled with bullets." This follows earlier resistance claims that mujahidin had mined the tunnel, AFP noted.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 222 *17 November 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Palestine Central Council To Meet 19 Nov [Aden VOP] A 1
Palestinian-Syrian Summit To Be Held 'Soon' [QNA] A 1
Syrian, PLO Figures Attempt To Heal Differences [Paris LE MONDE 12 Nov] A 1
DFLP Condemns All Attempts To Split PLO [Monte Carlo] A 2
Khalid Al-Hasan: Government-in-Exile Not Planned [SPA] A 2
PLO Aide Sees Positive Points in Reagan Plan [London AL-MAJALLAH 13-19 Nov] A 3
'Arafat's Adviser: U.S. Hammers Arab-Egypt Ties [WAKH] A 6
PLO Journal Reappears After 3-Month Absence [AL-KHALIJ 13 Nov] A 6

OPEC AFFAIRS

Nigeria Suggests Change in Venue for OPEC Meeting [NAN] B 1
Calderon Calls for 2-Year OPEC Price Freeze [AFP] B 1
Calderon Says OPEC To Maintain Current Prices [AFP] B 2
OPEC States Increase Borrowing, Withdrawals [KUNA] B 2
Kuwaiti Official on Alternative Energy Resources [ARAB TIMES 1 Nov] B 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Saudi Oil Minister Arrives on 'Sudden' Visit C 1

OMAN

Egyptian Envoy Arrives With Message for Qabus C 1
Briefs: Qabus Promotes Army Officers; Oil Production Increase C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd on Talks With Al-Jumayyil, GCC Summit C 2
Fahd Receives Message From Mauritanian President C 2
AL-JAZIRAH Scores Arab Regimes Over Gulf War [8 Nov] C 3
Riyadh Comments on Andropov's Election C 3
Foreign Minister Departs for Paris 15 Nov C 4
Official Defends Oil Production Cutback [GULF DAILY NEWS 16 Nov] C 4
Briefs: Saudi-French Oil Talks C 5

UAE

Iranian Delegation Arrives for Talks 17 November C 5
Official To Participate in Iran-Iraq Mediation C 5
Improving Trade Relations With Iran Viewed C 5
Oman-PDRY Reconciliation Agreement Hailed [AL-KHALIJ 16 Nov] C 7

PDRY

Chairman Interviewed on Arab, U.S. Initiatives [Aden VOP] C 8
Aden Assails U.S.-Moroccan Military Maneuvers C 8
Iranian Foreign Ministry Official Pays Visit C 9
Arrives 15 November C 9
Meets With 'Antar C 10
Departs 16 November C 10

YAR

Prime Minister Leaves With Message for Saddam Husayn C 11
Official People's Congress Paper Published C 11
Briefs: Agreement for Powerplant C 11

EGYPT

'Ali Returns to Cairo Following 2-Week Tour D 1
MAY Says Mubarak To Visit U.S. in January [15 Nov] D 2
Abu Ghazalah To Start U.S. Visit 20 November D 2
'Sources in Cairo' Expect 'Arafat Visit Soon [AL-'ARAB 16 Nov] D 3
More 'Religious Extremists' Released 15 November D 3
Supreme Council for Integration To Meet 5 Dec [AL-AHRAM 17 Nov] D 3

IRAQ

Saddam Husayn Addresses Fighters on Offensive E 1
Saddam Husayn: No Other Choice But To Fight E 1
U.S. Journalists Tour Mandali Sector 16 Nov E 2
Khayrallah Sends Message of Support to President E 2
Mandali, Maysan Battle Offensives 'Repulsed' E 3
Military Spokesman Statement E 3
IV Corps Commander Comments E 3
Communique No 905 E 3

JORDAN

Palestinian Officials To Visit Amman Soon [AD-DUSTUR 16 Nov] F 1
Yugoslav Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 16 Nov F 1
King Husayn To Make Tour of Arab Countries [WAKH] F 1
King Husayn Meets With Mitterrand on Middle East [cross-reference] F 1

LEBANON

Al-Jumayyil Returns From Saudi Arabia 15 Nov G 1
Al-Wazzan Interviewed on Withdrawal, Saudi Talks G 1
'Sources' View Al-Jumayyil Talks in Riyadh G 2
Druze Group Calls for Army Deployment in Mountain G 2
First Withdrawals To Begin After Habib Arrival [Radio Free Lebanon] G 3
Israeli Soldier Claims 300 Killed in Tyre Blast G 3
[Voice of Arab Lebanon]

SYRIA

Foreign Minister Khaddam Returns Home From Paris H 1
Az-Zu'bi Reelected People's Assembly Speaker H 1
Iranian Deputy Prime Minister Arrives for Visit H 1
Al-Asad Reportedly Visited Moscow '2 Weeks Ago' H 1
[Kuwait MIRA'T AL-UMMAH 17 Nov]

ISRAEL

Shamir Says PLO Must Evacuate Lebanon First I 1
Israel Ready For Force Disengagement With Syria I 1
Sharon on Conditions for Lebanon Withdrawal I 1
'Sources' Outline Lebanon Security Demands I 2
Kimche Holds Secret Contacts With Lebanese I 3
IDF Mediation Ends Fighting in Ash-Shuf Mountains I 4
'Police Sources': Gas Leak Caused Tyre Explosion I 4
Commentator Criticizes Sharon Comments on Lebanon [MA'ARIV 16 Nov] I 4
Habib To Promote Reagan Plan Among W. Bank Mayors I 6
Village Leagues' Dudin To Visit United States I 6
Nahal Has 23 New Presettlements in Territories I 6
Report on New West Bank Directives Denied I 7
Shamir Wants Normal Relations With Soviet Union I 7
French Premier To Visit Summer of Next Year I 7
Kohl Pledges To Strengthen Bilateral Ties I 8
Foreign Ministry Official Testifies at Inquiry I 8
Poll Shows Decline in Sharon's Popularity [THE JERUSALEM POST 16 Nov] I 9
Briefs: Living Standard Increase I 9

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Chad Representation Stalls OAU Conference [AFP] P 1
Text of Al-Qadhdhafi Speech to OAU Session [Tripoli] P 1
OAU Council of Ministers Resume Meetings [JANA] P 5

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Fundamentalists Demonstrate at University Q 1
[Paris LE MONDE 14-15 Nov]
U.S.-Moroccan Military Exercises Assailed Q 1
[EL MOUDJAHID 9 Nov]

MAURITANIA

French Presidential Adviser Leaves 17 Nov Q 2

MOROCCO

OAU Conference, Libya-Chad Differences Viewed Q 2

TUNISIA

Joint Communique on Niger President's Visit Q 3
[L'ACTION 8 Nov]

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Defense Minister Holds Talks in Cuba Q 5
[cross-reference]

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Foreign Minister Comments on Tripoli Recognition [AFP] S 1

ZAIRE

Communique on Belgian State Secretary's Visit S 1

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Asmaoah Praises Holding of Tripoli Meeting T 1

NIGERIA

Nigerian Troops To Leave Lebanon by January 1983 T 1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

BOTSWANA

Masire Fears Effect of Refugees on Country [AFP] U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Chilean Captured by Resistance Reported Freed U 1
[Voice of Free Africa]

SOUTH AFRICA

Importance of UNITA Seen in Prisoner Swap U 2
Pik Botha Reacts to Mugabe's Accusation U 2
Comments on Bush Remarks U 3

ZAMBIA

South Africa-Angola Prisoner Exchange Completed U 3

ZIMBABWE

Bush Praises Mugabe, Comments on Angola, Namibia U 3

PALESTINE CENTRAL COUNCIL TO MEET 19 NOV

GF161958 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Reliable Palestinian sources have said the Palestine Central Council will meet in the Syrian capital next Friday under the chairman ship of Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, and attended by Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces.

The sources said this meeting is one of the most important because of the situation the Palestinian issue is passing through.

PALESTINIAN-SYRIAN SUMMIT TO BE HELD 'SOON'

GF171014 Doha QNA in Arabic 0925 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Doha, 17 Nov (QNA) -- Press reports noted here today that a Palestinian-Syrian summit will be held soon in Damascus to discuss reinforcing Syrian-Palestinian relations and confronting the Zionist dangers and to review all political efforts dealing with the Arab issue.

The Qatari paper AL-'ARAB quotes well-informed sources, saying the meeting will be held just before the end of November and this meeting will be attended by a large number of the Palestinian leaders.

SYRIAN, PLO FIGURES ATTEMPT TO HEAL DIFFERENCES

PM151237 Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Nov 82 p 6

[Emmanuel Jarry dispatch]

[Text] Damascus -- The Palestinian leaders are pursuing their discussions with the Syrian leaders to try to smooth out the differences between them. These talks, initiated by Mr Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] and Mr Georges Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, were recently resumed by Palestinian diplomacy chief Faruq Qaddumi and Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), one of Mr 'Arafat's close aides. They might be the prelude to a meeting between the PLO leader and President al-Asad.

Mr 'Arafat's visit to Athens after the withdrawal from Beirut, then his decision to install himself in Tunis not Damascus, and President al-Asad's absence from Fes airport when the PLO leader arrived to take part in the Arab summit, had highlighted the scope of the dispute between Syria and the Palestinian federation, more especially Fatah, its main component.

The disagreement is so serious that Mr 'Arafat apparently only met with the Syrian head of state during his first visit to Damascus after the Fes summit, as a result of intervention by Palestine National Countil Chairman Khalid al-Fahum and Muhammad Khalifah, representative of As-Sa'iqah (Syrian-controlled organization) within the PLO Executive Committee. Even then, according to Arab diplomatic sources, it had been agreed that the two men would avoid thorny questions.

Damascus' reactions to Mr 'Arafat's visit to Amman in mid-October had not improved matters. Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, had at the time disputed, in veiled terms, the PLO leader's right to negotiate "separately" with King Husayn. The Damascus press, for its part, announced that five of the PLO organizations had signed a document hostile to those talks -- reports which the DFLP, PFLP and Mr Tal'at Ya'qub's Palestine Liberation Front denied shortly afterwards.

The Palestinian officials, including those opposed to any rapprochement with Jordan, regard the Syrian attitude as dangerous interference in the PLO's affairs. They think that by attacking Mr Yasir 'Arafat, Syria is attacking the unity of the entire organization.

By behaving in that way the Syrians "are pushing Yasir 'Arafat to move closer to the reactionary Arab states," a DFLP official commented.

The Syrian fears are based on a misunderstanding, Palestinian circles in Damascus add. "The PLO's efforts to strengthen its relations with Jordan do not mean that we were giving preference to one Arab country over another." Mr Abu Jihad, for his part, told us: "Quite the reverse; we hope to strengthen our relations with Syria at the same time. If we have political disputes, we will settle them in a fraternal spirit."

Mr Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, for his part, denied wanting to attack the PLO leader. "I merely clearly expressed the pledges made by the Arabs in Fes. It was the press agencies which wanted to see that as a personal attack on Yasir 'Arafat." It will take much more than that conciliatory tone to remove what a DFLP representative called the "ambiguities" in Syrian policy. "One of the great questions which we must clarify with the Syrians is their position on the situation in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon and on the U.S. plans for the withdrawal of the Syrian and Israeli forces," Mr Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, PLO Executive Committee member and one of Mr Nayif Hawatimah's close aides, said in particular. "Our interests are not the same as Syria's. We do not regard it simply as a military problem. We also have refugee camps to protect."

There is also disagreement on the fedayeen's activities in Al-Biqa', since the Syrians are hindering commando infiltrations through their lines. The ambush in which Abu al-Walid, who was in charge of the Resistance's military operations in Lebanon and, according to a Fatah officer, was "one of the PLO's most independent leaders," was killed, was bound to increase the Palestinians' suspicion of Damascus although no accusation has been made openly. Nonetheless some Palestinians privately reproach the Syrians for being unable or unwilling to supply a helicopter to fly out Abu al-Walid who was seriously injured and had to wait several hours, later dying in Damascus.

"It is not in the interest of either the PLO or Syria to allow their relations to deteriorate," the Palestinian officials assert. "We know that our viewpoints differ in some cases," Mr Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh stressed, "but we have a great deal in common. Why not try to establish a degree of understanding?"

DFLP CONDEMNS ALL ATTEMPTS TO SPLIT PLO

JN170544 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] yesterday issued a statement in Damascus in which it condemned all attempts to split the PLO and thus undermine its independence and unity. The statement said DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah and PFLP leader George Habash held a meeting in the Syrian capital to discuss this subject and foil such attempts.

KHALID AL-HASAN: GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE NOT PLANNED

LD171046 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0927 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Nov (SPA) -- Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Palestine National Council, has announced that the idea of forming a Palestinian government-in-exile is not planned at present.

Al-Hasan, in a statement to the periodical AL-YAMAMAH today, says the Palestinian high command, which would make the decision to set up such a government, has not yet made a decision which means this idea is remote, and fixing a time for it is absolutely not planned at present. He says the announcement about such a matter will come at the right time when the government does not face difficulties likely to affect the liberation march.

Khalid al-Hasan deals with the visit to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to Egypt. He says this visit stems from the good relations between the organization and Egypt, and it will take place shortly. Preparations for it are being made. He stresses that Egyptian-Palestinian contacts are continuing and are not blocked by any obstacles worth mentioning by Cairo whose welcome has increased for any Egyptian-Palestinian rapprochement that serves the cause.

Al-Hasan explains that the fate of the Palestinian citizens in Beirut is threatened for more than one reason, despite the presence of the international forces, in view of the continuing Israeli occupation which is fabricating repeated incidents, the latest of which is the horrendous massacre last October after the departure of the organization forces from the Lebanese capital. He points out that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has stressed his care for the lives of Palestinian citizens.

Khalid al-Hasan deals with Palestinian-French relations. He describes them as being good and better than relations with any other European country except Greece. He says French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson has made his country's stand toward the Palestinian question clear more than once, a matter which confirms France's desire to develop its relations with the organization to the utmost.

PLO AIDE SEES POSITIVE POINTS IN REAGAN PLAN

PM161453 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 13-19 Nov 82 pp 20-21

[Dr Nabil Sha'th, member of the Palestine National Council [PNC] and Fatah Movement Revolutionary Council, interview with Salih Qallab in Tunis -- date not given]

[Excerpts] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has appointed Dr Nabil Sha'th as his adviser for international affairs. Sha'th has a doctorate in economic from the University of Pennsylania and studied business administration at Wharton.

Dr Sha'th is one of the most important Palestinian experts on U.S. affairs. When President Reagan announced his plan for solving the Palestine problem 'Arafat sent him to the United States to explore the views of U.S. officials regarding the Middle East problem and to gauge U.S. public opinion on it.

AL-MAJALLAH interviewed Sha'th at 'Arafat's headquarters in Tunis and put questions to him regarding Reagan's initiative and the U.S. attitude toward the PLO. Sha'th stressed that there are positive aspects in Reagan's initiative. Following is the interview.

[Question] Palestinian officials continuously speak about the positive aspects of Reagan's plan. What are these aspects?

[Answer] Reagan submitted his plan on 1 September, the day the Palestinian forces left Lebanon and the day immediately following Ari'el Sharon's departure from the United States where he discussed the Israeli view of the situation following the Palestinian forces' departure from Lebanon.

It is known that the Israeli view considers the PLO as having suffered a crushing military and political defeat and, consequently, the Palestine problem has ended and there is no longer justification for talking about the Palestinian people. Therefore, there is no reason to discuss the question of Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza. This view is also based on the idea that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel, that Israel has a right to build settlements not only on the West Bank but also in every place, that the representatives of the Palestinians are the village leagues, that Sharon, before leaving the United States, agreed with officials of these leagues on certain self-administration measures in the West Bank and that the solution of the Palestinian problem from Israel's viewpoint is to evict the Palestinians to Jordan so that Jordan will become the Palestinian state under Israeli control. Moreover, Israel believes the cost of its "military victory" in Lebanon should be a full peace treaty with Lebanon first and then with Syria, with complete normalization of the northern and eastern borders. Therefore, if we compare this proposition with the initiative which Reagan announced in his speech, then we will find that the positive points it contains are the direct result of the Palestinian steadfastness in Beirut. Therefore, the Palestinian exodus from Beirut becomes not a military and political defeat, as Sharon claims, but a limited victory for the PLO at least.

What confirms this fact are the following points which become clear through our reading of Reagan's speech:

Reagan says in the introduction to his speech that the war in Lebanon has proved that Israel cannot achieve through war any peace for itself or its neighbors.

Reagan says the Palestinians' losses (and not defeat) in Lebanon did not lessen their burning desire for a homeland for themselves and did not curb their continuing to work for their legitimate rights. They say their problem is not a refugee problem "which I fully agree with, for it is the problem of a people's legitimate rights."

Reagan totally rejects Israel's right to sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza sector and insists on withdrawal from these territories. (Shultz explained to a delegation of Palestinian Americans that this means withdrawal from 98 percent of the Palestinian territory occupied in 1967.)

Reagan considers Jerusalem to still be subject to negotiations and refuses to accept it as the eternal capital of the State of Israel.

Reagan calls for freezing the building of new settlements (in his message to the Arab leaders he calls for freezing the expansion of existing settlments) and rejects the principle that settlements achieve security for Israel and that it has a right to them.

Reagan rejects Israel's interpretation of autonomy whether during the transitional period or in the final situation. He also rejects the prinicple of Israel selecting the Palestinian people's representatives through the village leagues formula and insists that the Palestinian people's representatives are those chosen by this people through free and direct elections.

This clearly shows that Reagan rejects the Israeli security theory which is based on occupying the lands of others by force.

We regard all these as positive points, and as a minimum we should try to prevent the United States from retreating from them. We see these positive points as a defeat for the Sharon-Begin-Shamir gang and its views. We believe also that they imply a recognition of the Palestinian Revolution's steadfastness and of its limited victory against the Israeli enemy. This is why we really regard them as positive points. However, in our tackling of the Reagan speech, we concentrate on rejecting his views regarding the PLO, the Palestinian state and the Palestinian people living outside the territories occupied in 1967, but we do not fail to emphasize the positive aspects.

[Question] Are there direct contacts between the PLO and the U.S. administration, especially after Reagan's plan?

[Answer] It is a known fact that the United States is one of the two superpowers and the most influential power in our region, the strategic ally of our enemy and the real exploiter of our wealth. This is why we cannot ignore it or abandon the attempts to contact it, have a dialogue with it and confront it in every way. The U.S. arena is the enemy's main arena. The Vietnamese worked in it during their war, and the Algerians did the same with France. We have always tried to work in the enemy's arena in order to influence it. The U.S. administration, however, refuses to have official contacts with us. This is an old and consistent U.S. policy. Kissinger confirmed it when he promised the U.S. Congress and Israel that the U.S. administration would not recognize or have any dialogue with the PLO unless the PLO accepted Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and unless it recognized Israel's right to exist, which the PLO will never do. This is why past and current contacts are made through middlemen.

[Question] There are those who say that if recognition of Israel was a possibility before what happened and is happening in Lebanon, talking about it now, after all that was happened, is national treason.

[Answer] Recognition of Israel was not feasible before and is not feasible now, after the war. We absolutely refuse to be blackmailed with this issue of recognition as a price for dialogue with us. The only aim of this blackmail is to get concessions from us in return for nothing. We categorically reject this. Furthermore, what have Syria and Jordan so far achieved by accepting Resolutions 242 and 338? Absolutely nothing.

[Question] But according to the Fes summit resolutions, the PLO has accepted coexistence with Israel.

[Answer] Article Seven of the Fes resolutions links the right of all peoples and states in the region to live in peace and security to the implementation of the other six articles and is not a precondition or a price for dialogue as the United States is asking. Also, the Fes resolutions call on the UN Security Council, not the PLO, to guarantee the existence and security of the peoples and states of the region.

[Question] There are several settlement plans: There is the Arab Fes plan, the Brezhnev plan, the Reagan plan and the French-Egyptian plan. Which of these plans do you consider more likely to be implemented?

[Answer] We proceed on the basis of the Fes summit resolutions which, in our opinion, constitute the only adequate foundation for fulfilling the Palestinian people's rights and for establishing a just peace in the area. We believe that the offensive against the Reagan initiative should be escalated on the basis of the Fes summit resolutions, in the hope of proving that these resolutions are the basis.

'ARAFAT'S ADVISER: U.S. HAMPERS ARAB-EGYPT TIES

GF130756 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0712 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 13 Nov (WAKH) -- Khalid al-Hasan, adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has accused the United States of hampering the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations either by pressuring Egypt or by pressuring a number of other Arab states.

In a statement to the UAE's AL-KHALIJ, which is published in Ash-Shariqah today, Al-Hasan says international colonialism seeks to isolate Egypt from the Arab world.

He adds that returning Egypt to the Arab fold and to the framework of the supreme Arab interests is a national duty and a political necessity. He calls for exerting every effort to achieve positive steps in this direction.

'Arafat's adviser notes in his statement that currently Egypt faces a popular and national movement in this direction particularly pertaining to a rejection of Egyptian-Israeli relations.

He explains that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has, since he assumed the presidency, adopted more than a positive stand on the Palestinian question such as his insistence on the self-determination of the Palestinian people and his announcement that no one can adopt a decision in the name of the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian official expresses hope that freezing the autonomy talks will not be temporary but permanent. He says: "Egypt's stands must be supported and encouraged by the Arabs. U.S. efforts to hamper the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations is aimed at preventing the existence of any Arab pressure group."

PLO JOURNAL REAPPEARS AFTER 3-MONTH ABSENCE

LD161928 Kuwait KUNA in English 1117 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Beirut, Nov 16 (KUNA) -- The new issue of the Arabic magazine "PALESTINE AFFAIRS" published monthly by the PLO Research Center reappeared Monday after a 3-month absence, the Palestinian News Agency (WAFA) said Tuesday.

The new issue includes articles about the 3-month war and other topics related to the Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

The preface spoke about the particular difficulties faced by "PALESTINE AFFAIRS" due to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The preface stated: "The Research Center resumed preparations to reactivate which [as received] when an agreement had been reached to lift the Israeli siege of Beirut. Once again these preparations were interrupted when the Israeli invading troops and their local agents attacked Beirut and committed the massacre in Sabra and Shatila camps.

During the attack, the invaders attempted to obliterate Palestinian memory by looting cultural, scientific and historical documents from the Research Center library.

The will of the Palestinian people to survive and their capacity for regeneration proved stronger. These qualities were manifested on the intellectual level by the steadfastness of the Research Center and its determination to compensate for the material looted or destroyed by the Israeli invaders".

The primary aim of the magazine is to declare that Palestinian national life is stronger than all attempts to destroy it.

NIGERIA SUGGESTS CHANGE IN VENUE FOR OPEC MEETING

AB140724 Lagos NAN in English 1710 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Lagos, Nov 13 (NAN) -- Nigeria suggested an alternative venue for the OPEC oil ministers meeting, scheduled to start in Lagos on Dec. 9, when it became clear that member-states felt that a shift in venue was appropriate, Malam Yahaya Diko, special adviser to the president on petroleum and energy, said in Lagos yesterday.

Malam Yahaya said in a news release that Nigeria had never regarded hosting OPEC meeting as a national imperative. He explained that his statement was prompted by what he called some misleading reports regarding OPEC's next meeting and certain pricing decisions taken by Indonesia.

Malam Yahaya stated: What is essential are the discussions that take place, the decisions that are made and the unity of the organisation.

When Nigeria was asked by the organization to host the meeting in December, we assented. When it became apparent that some member-states felt that an alternative site would be more appropriate, we took the view that this was a minor matter and we suggested an alternative venue, he said.

The special adviser said that Nigeria had received a request from Saudi Arabia for a change in venue or in price defferentials. Malam Yahaya said in the statement that the recent alternation of differentials by Indonesia was in line with decisions taken at the OPEC meeting in March in Vienna.

At that meeting, member-states agreed to reduce their differentials to the 1978 levels with the market crude remaining at 34 dollars a barrel, Malam Yahaya noted. Indonesia indicated that it would make such reductions when it considered it necessary to do so in the light of market situation, he said.

The presidential adviser said that Nigeria and other countries acted immediately to reduce their differentials. Indonesia's actions are, therefore, not a departure from OPEC decisions but in full compliance with them, constituting nothing more than a return to her 1978 differentials. Malam Yahaya continued, it is, therefore, wholly erroneous to represent or imply that Indonesian actions is a unilateral actions which defies OPEC decision. Malam Yahaya emphasised that Nigeria had no intention of altering its prices as a result of the recent Indonesian decision and our production is unaffected by that.

CALDERON CALLS FOR 2-YEAR OPEC PRICE FREEZE

PA010058 Paris AFP in English 0027 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Caracas, Nov 1 (AFP) -- Venezuelan Energy Minister Humberto Calderon Berti called Sunday for a minimum two-year freeze on oil prices set by the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

He also called for a long-term pricing policy which he said should be respected by all OPEC members.

Alluding to 1982 Nobel economics laureate George Stigler's statement that OPEC was weakening progressively, the energy minister said this would happen if a trend toward the use of forms of energy other than oil continued.

CALDERON SAYS OPEC TO MAINTAIN CURRENT PRICES

PA152244 Paris AFP in Spanish 2224 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Caracas, 15 Nov (AFP) -- OPEC will maintain its current oil prices, Venezuelan Oil and Energy Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said today in Caracas.

"It would not be in the interests of any of the OPEC member countries to reduce the oil price, because we would thereby be engaging in unlimited competition among ourselves and that certainly would not help any of the organization's member countries," Calderon added.

Calderon concluded that "Saudi Arabia is interested in contributing, along with the other members of the organization, to maintaining the OPEC's current price structure."

OPEC STATES INCREASE BORROWING, WITHDRAWALS

LD011302 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0821 GMT 1 Nov 28

[Text] Geneva, 1 Nov (KUNA) -- A report issued by the Bank for International Settlements states that OPEC member countries, following the reduction in oil production due to a drop in demand, borrowed $3.1 billion from a number of principal Western banks during the second quarter of this year. They have also withdrawn $6.8 billion from their deposits. The report, which was obtained by KUNA today and which will be published here tomorrow, says that OPEC countries also withdrew $9.9 billion of a total of $22.1 billion withdrawn from all banks by countries outside the region covered by the report. The amoung withdrawn is the largest in a 3-month period.

The bank said that the OPEC states' decision to reduce their deposits in such a sharp way and to escalate their borrowings, is a continuation of "a series of withdrawals" which began in mid-1981.

It added that a $6.8 billion drop in depostis in any case, is regarded as "sudden increase" in comparison with the first quarter of the year when OPEC states' deposits fell by only 500 million.

The report of the Bank for International Settlements, which has its headquarters in Basel, Switzerland, pointed out that the "sharp increase" in the rate of borrowing by countries outside the region -- $19.1 billion in comparison with $62 billion [figures as received] in the first quarter of the year -- centered on developing countries which are not OPEC members. These developing countries ahve borrowed $2.7 billion, which is six times as much as they borrowed in the first quarter of the current year.

Latin American countries borrowed $7.5 billion; Mexico borrowed $3.6 billion and Brazil $2.1 billion.

The bank, which is managed by the world's principal central banks said [word indistinct] of the increased borrowing rate. The world total for the first half of the current year has reached $50 billion which is less than the $65 billion borrowed during the first half of last year, 1981.

According to the contents of the report, it seems that the international rate of borrowing has declined since June 1982 and that the total borrowing this year would be less than last year, during which it reached $165 billion.

KUWAITI OFFICIAL ON ALTERNATIVE ENERGY RESOURCES

GF011153 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 1 Nov 82 p 12

[Report presented by 'Adnan Shihab ad-Din, director general of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, to a recently held OAPEC seminar -- date, place not given]

[Text] Energy specialists agree that even the oil-rich states of the Arabian Gulf no longer can afford to postpone research and development activities on alternative energy sources. Indeed, such activities have become all important today as Arab oil-exporting countries attempt safeguard their own sound and secure energy future. A diversified energy supply strategy must therefore be their ultimate objective.

Today it is a well known fact that the abundant avilability of oil and gas as energy sources even in the oil-rich Arab countries is limited. OAPEC oil reserves, for example, are estimated to be sufficient to maintain the present levels of production for about 40 more years to come.

But all OAPEC member countries, in spite of their high GNP and per capita income, are above still developing countries, whose energy needs will immensely increase with the development and expansion of their productive economic activities and industries. Their exclusive reliance on one depleting source of energy, i.e. oil, is therefore not a sound policy for the future.

Desirable

Furthermore, research and development of new energy sources have yet other desirable spill-over effects for the economy in general. An effective strategy of energy diversification goes well beyong securing additional energy supplies.

The development of new energy sources should be accompanied by the transfer of technology and technological skills into other sectors of a nation's social and economic life.

Present day energy consumption patterns in the Arabian oil-exporting countries are indeed alarming. For example, the highest per capita oil-exporting states of OAPEC (Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE) consume energy at rates equal to or, in the case of Kuwait, higher than those of North America and their projected growth rates of energy consumption remain exceedingly high. Because of the paucity of non-hydrocarbon resources in the region, almost the entire burden of the increase in energy demand is likely to be borne by oil and to a lesser extent, by gas.

Traditional

Traditional energy resources, such as coal, are almost non-existent in the Arab oil countries and any viable energy diversification strategy would have to depend on renewable resources, i.e. solar and nuclear energy.

In the OAPEC countries, for example, electricity is the most common form of energy used and, as oil and gas prices continue to climb, the case of introducing nuclear power becomes more and more compelling. Nuclear energy represents a credible future energy supply option for OAPEC states because capital is available to be invested in this highly capital intensive technology.

The major challenge, however, lies in the weakness of the scientific technological industrial infrastructure of the OAPEC countries. But if pursued collectively and on a regional rather than national basis, the nuclear option still represents a very viable alternative energy source of the region in the future.

Attainable

Solar energy, on the other hand, represents a much more realistic and attainable objective of the Arab oil countries, since solar radiation is most abundant in this particular geographic region. Solar energy can easily be used in water desalination, space heating, cooling as well as in telecommunications. Above all, pioneering projects in this field of solar energy have already been successfully undertaken in several Arab oil-exporting countries, most notably in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE. The basis for a solar energy program has thus already been founded and awaits further expansion as well as an intensive commitment to employ solar energy in the national energy program.

Last but not least, energy conservation has to become part and parcel of the Arab energy program in general. While the development of new energy sources, i.e. nuclear and solar, serve to augment supply, conservation is to reduce demand for energy in general, especially oil. Effective conservation measures and programs must therefore be regarded as the key to any viable Arab energy policy.

KUWAIT

SAUDI OIL MINISTER ARRIVES ON 'SUDDEN' VISIT

LD171030 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Nov (KUNA) -- The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, today received Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani. The minister handed the amir a message from the monarch of Saudi Arabia, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The meeting was attended by Kuwaiti Minister of Oil Affairs Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah.

Yamani arrived here today on a sudden visit. No official details are available about the contents of the message.

OMAN

EGYPTIAN ENVOY ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR QABUS

GF140826 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0618 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Muscat, 13 Nov (WAHK) -- Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and director of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's office, arrived in Muscat this evening for a visit to the Sultanate of Oman that will last several days.

Dr al-Baz carries a verbal message to Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on bilateral relations as well as on exchanging views on a number of issues that are of mutual interest, foremost among which are the Middle East question and the situation in the Gulf region.

BRIEFS

QABUS PROMOTES ARMY OFFICERS -- Sultan Qabus has issued a decree promoting Staff Brig Gen Hasan Ihsan Nasib, under secretary of the Defense Ministry and defense assistant chief of staff; Brig Gen 'Ali Majid (al-Mi'mari), first military escort of his majesty and director of the palace of the ground forces of Oman's sultan, to the rank of major general; and Staff Col Sa'if Sa'id 'Ali (al-Kilbani) to the rank of brigadier general. These promotions are effective 1 November 1982. [Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Oct 82 GF]

OIL PRODUCTION INCREASE -- In a statement to the Omani newspaper 'UMAN today, Omani Petroleum and Minerals Minister Sa'id Ahmad ash-Shanfari said that oil production in the Sultanate of Oman will be raised to about 360,000 barrels per day for the purpose of financing projects of the second 5-year plan. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1145 GMT 14 Nov 82 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

FAHD ON TALKS WITH AL-JUMAYYIL, GCC SUMMIT

LD161414 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Riyadh, Nov 16 (SPA) -- King Fahd, presiding at a Cabinet meeting held here last night, described talks held with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil as objective and constructive, and reaffirmed that the Israelis should withdraw from Lebanon, it was officially announced.

Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, in a statement to SPA, quoted the monarch as saying also that the discussions took place in a brotherly atmosphere and reflected a true and firm desire to back Lebanon and help it overcome its ordeal.

The king expressed the kingdom's interest in helping Lebanon re-establish security and stability in the country and embark on its reconstruction programme. "The talks were objective and fruitful and I have affirmed to President al-Jumayyil and the accompanying delegation Saudi Arabia's support for brotherly Lebanon," the monarch said.

The weekly Cabinet meeting took place shortly after Mr al-Jumayyil left Riyadh for home following a two-day official visit to the kingdom. The Cabinet session began with a briefing by King Fahd on the results of the talks held with the Lebanese head of state and questions raised during the discussions, which were concentrated on bilateral relations.

The king said: "We stress the need for the evacuation of the usurping Israeli forces from Lebanon so that it may re-build itself and brethren rally behind him for support and help.

"We reviewed in particular the Palestine cause advocated by the PLO, and expressed to President al-Jumayyil and the accompanying delegation our admiration for efforts which he and the Lebanese Government were making to re-establish security and stability in the country," the king added.

Dr Yamani said the Cabinet was also briefed on the outcome of the Gulf Cooperation Council, GCC, summit held in Bahrain a week ago. He added that the monarch explained to the Cabinet the "dimensions of the fruitful results achieved."

The monarch was quoted as saying that the outcome of the GCC summit "gave rise for optimism about a brilliant future for joint Gulf action in the interest of the region and the whole Arab and Islamic nations." King Fahd described the summit deliberations as objective, constructive and characterised by a sense of responsibility. "We dwelt on current issues, especially those relating to the Gulf region and the present Arab situation and, thank God, achieved encouraging and honourable results," the king said.

FAHD RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT

LD161200 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1040 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Nov (SPA) -- His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received Mauritanian Minister of Information Mohamed el Moctar Ould Zamel at the Royal Court in Al-Ma'dhar at 1315 today.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and commander of the National Guard.

AL-JAZIRAH SCORES ARAB REGIMES OVER GULF WAR

PM161119 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 8 Nov 82 p 2

[Jasir al-Jasir article: "The Age of Arab Spectators"]

[Text] The Iranian forces yesterday entered Arab territory in Iraq. Although the area penetrated by the invading forces is small -- 5 km -- the occupation of Arab territory by any side is rejected in principle and no Arab, however great his differences with the Iraqi regime may be, can accept it. This is because Iraqi territory is Arab territory, its honor is the honor of every Arab and its protection is the duty of every Arab, not just the duty and honor of Saddam Husayn or the Iraqis.

We say this in view of the suspect role played by certain Arab regimes that have taken a position of alliance and friendship with a racist sectarian regime which evidently is grudge-bearing and hostile to everything Arab. We do not know what happened to the slogan of Arab nationalism and the slogan which speaks of one Arab nation with one eternal mission [of the Ba'th Party], slogans upheld by the rulers and military advisers of that Arab country who are drawing up plans for Persian armies to occupy Arab territory?

How could this regime and other regimes, such as that of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, be viewed by us with satisfaction when they help make it possible for a racist, sectarian and grudge-bearing regime to occupy Arab territory?

We know that there is a dispute between the Iraqi rulers and two Arab regimes, but we do not know how any Arab official could allow himself to help any enemy of the Arab nation to occupy Arab territory. Is Arab territory so cheap that Arab rulers rejoice when an enemy occupies part of it, with some Arab rulers going so far as to help this occupation?

We do not know where the personal differences -- purely personal differences -- of the Arab rulers will lead us. After the loss of Palestine and the Golan Heights, what will be next, Basra, Al-'Amarah or Baghdad? We address this question to the Arabs who have watched the Iraqis fight for over 2 years and who are still just playing the part of spectator even toward those who are helping the enemy. May God have mercy on us.

RIYADH COMMENTS ON ANDROPOV'S ELECTION

GF150706 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir commentary]

[Text] As was expected, the responsibility of the Soviet political leadership has been given to Yuriy Andropov, former chairman of Soviet intelligence. The expectations of the specialists in Kremlin affairs had made him a likely candidate alongside Konstantin Chernenko, but he received the unanimous approval of the remaining members of the Politburo.

Andropov is regarded as one of the most puzzling figures in the Soviet leadership and also one of the the least known.

All the information available about him is that he was the chairman of Soviet intelligence for 15 years and that before that he was the ambassador to Hungary at the time of the Budapest upheaval. Following his sudden appearance [on the stage], his candidacy for the Politburo and his preparations to be the expected successor of Brezhnev, the reports of Western intelligence -- which became active in gathering information about him -- classified him as being conservative in his behavior and moves to a great extent.

In short, he is truly an intelligent man, and this could be the quality that spreads panic among the Soviet people. The other quality that spreads fear in the international arena is his role in the tragic events that took place in Hungary during his posting as the Soviet ambassador between 1953-1957. This gives rise to questions as to whether he masterminded the interference of the Red Army in Budapest and its savage suppression of its people. Therefore a leader with such a character and a suppressive quality makes every specialist in Soviet affairs apprehensive about the next stage of the Soviet practices.

Andropov, who inherited from his predecessor a duty which is inundated with difficult responsbilities, such as the deteriorating economic situation, the Soviet involvement in Afghanistan and the critical situation in Poland, is viewed as being reluctant to abandon Brezhnev's theory of limited sovereignty -- since he has such qualities. What is meant by limited sovereignty is the soverignty of the communist bloc countries over their internal affairs, that is, these affairs should be under the framework of the general policy and sovereignty of the communist bloc. This very theory led Brezhnev to openly interfere in the Polish domestic affairs.

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR PARIS 15 NOV

LD151038 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0933 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Riyadh, 15 Nov (SPA) -- Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, left Riyadh for Paris at dawn today to join the Arab seven-member committee delegation.

The delegation is headed by His Majesty King Husayn, the Jordanian monarch, who arrived in Paris last night. The delegation includes Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Jordanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim, Algerian Minister of Foreign Affairs Lakhdar Ibrahimi -- who will all arrive in Paris today -- and member of the PLO Central Committee Khalid al-Hasan.

OFFICIAL DEFENDS OIL PRODUCTION CUTBACK

GF160518 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 16 Nov 82 p 15

[Excerpt] Riyadh -- Saudi Arabia's cutback in oil production is part of a policy aimed at furthering OPEC solidarity, according to 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Turki, the kingdom's deputy minister of petroleum and mineral resources.

He said there was "no cause for alarm" over the kingdom's current low oil production levels.

At-Turki said that the kingdom's crude production cutback was the result of direct implementations of a policy of further OPEC solidarity by maintaining the OPEC benchmark price of $34 per barrel.

Saudi Arabia remained optimistic about the future course of the world oil market.

The minister said the "short-term cutbacks" did not give a clear picture of the country's production.

"Yearly production, whether or not expressed in terms of a daily average, is the true reflection of the current production level. Under such a definition, Saudi production may be maintained or even increased somewhat in the near future."

He added that over the next six months there could be a total rise in non-communist oil demand of two to four million b/d, some of which would be met by Saudi Arabia and other GCC states.

BRIEFS

SAUDI-FRENCH OIL TALKS -- Ahmad Zaki Yamani, petroleum and mineral affairs minister, met today with Michel Rocard, the French planning and development minister. The French minister also met with Dr 'Abd al-Hadi Hasan Tahir, governor of the general establishment for petroleum and minerals, Petromini. During the two meetings, aspects of cooperation in the oil and minerals fields and the use of French expertise were discussed. [Text] [Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Nov 82 GF]

UAE

IRANIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS 17 NOVEMBER

GF170654 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0620 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Nov (WAKH) -- Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign affairs minister, arrived in Abu Dhabi today leading a delegation on a 2-day visit to the UAE within the framework of a tour of a number of Arab countries. During the visit the Iranian delegation will meet with a number of the UAE officials to discuss bilateral relations and the current developments in the Gulf area and in the Middle East.

Upon arrival, the Iranian official was received by Ya'qub al-Qandi, head of the political department at the UAE Foreign Affairs Ministry and Abolhasan Za'fari, the Iranian charge d'affaires in the UAE.

OFFICIAL TO PARTICIPATE IN IRAN-IRAQ MEDIATION

GF131531 Doha QNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 13 Nov (QNA) -- Today's edition of AL-KHALIJ says that the participation of the UAE in the mediation efforts made by Algeria to end the Iran-Iraq war was discussed during the third GCC summit conference. The newspaper says that informed sources here expect that a high-ranking official from the UAE will leave for Algeria in the next few days for coordination regarding the mediation.

IMPROVING TRADE RELATIONS WITH IRAN VIEWED

GF101114 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 10 Nov 82 p 1

[By Maruf Khwaja]

[Text] Iran, which had nationalised its import trade last year following a foreign exchange crisis, is understood to be returning part of it to the private sector. The decision has been approved by the Iranian Cabinet and is awaiting the consent of parliament.

Trading circles quoting Iranian press and radio reports say the proposal to end strict state control over what is to be imported into the country is motivated partly by an improvement in foreign exchange reserves and partly to a growing demand for equipment and materials needed to expedite reconstruction and redevelopment in many areas of Iran, which cannot wholly be met by the state sector organisations.

But while private traders will be allowed to open letters of credit with suppliers abroad, distribution of goods and materials within the country will remain in government hands. This is being done to ensure an even spread of supplies at what the government would consider reasonable prices.

One of the main conditions attached to the policy of nationalised imports -- that goods be obtained only from the countries of their origin, is also to be modified. According to the reports, import of items not yet officially specified would be allowed to be made for any cheap and convenient source. This would appear to extend the scope of private trade back to one of the main traditional sources of Iranian imports, Dubai and other UAE ports.

Some of the private sector imports would, however, be tied to a recently introduced export incentive scheme under which a trader making, say, two million rials worth of exports, is allowed a foreign exchange allowance of an equal value for making necessary imports. These are to be of goods and equipment that would assist in the execution of redevelopment projects and also in the generation of more exports.

Itemwise, imports by Iran have hitherto been confined to a list of 374, drastically reduced from the 1,400 perviously allowed. Since much of the reduction has been of items regarded as unnecessary luxury goods by the government, it is considered unlikely that many more would be added to the current list.

Seen in conjunction with the recent permission given to Iranian nationals working in Arab Gulf countries to bring home with them once a year specified consumer and capital goods worth 100,000 tomans, Iran's new import policy would stand to restore Dubai's entrepot trade to its previous levels.

But an immediate spurt in commerce is considered unlikely by trading circles who say that merchants are inclined, in the light of past experience, to wait for the new policy to crystallise and demonstrate an assurance of stability before they undertake to place substantial orders for goods that could be re-exported to Iran.

Iranian sources have, however, denied that the facility is in any way time-barred. A form available to Iranians at the Consulate in Dubai, which lays down the conditions for import under the 100,000-toman scheme, make no mention of a February deadline. The only conditions stated are that the beneficiaries must be residents of longer than six months in the UAE, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait, and that the imports may be made by one person once a year.

According to a consular source, items falling within the 100,000-toman limit (approximating according to official exchange rates to roughly 50,000 dirhams) relate only to consumer goods and general merchandise.

The 42 items permitted to be imported by Iranian nationals are: radios and radio cassette recorders (valued at less than Dh250), woolen, cotton and artificial silk cloth (valued respectively at not more than Dh40, Dh6 and Dh10 per metre), motor car spare parts excluding chassis, spare parts for Volvo, Benz and White trucks, Benz, Volvo and Hino trucks and loaders, tractors (Massey Ferguson, Volvo, Fiat and John Deere), agricultural equipment including water pumps and insecticide spray machines, industrial instruments, needles for sewing and similar machines, ball-bearings and rings, timber, electronic parts including transistors, amplifiers and thermostats etc., adhesive, photographic films, crockery, screws, nuts and bolts, hardware including hand tools, welding electrodes, refrigerators, water coolers, fans, commercial freezers, road construction machinery, sewing machines, electric generators, stationery items, battery cells, spectacle frames, intercoms, microscopes, oil cookers, heaters, sports equipment except ping pong and gaming tables, pick-up trucks, motorcycles of not more than 125 cc, marine engines for launches and motor boats, carpentry tools, tools for excavation.

A rider to the list states that the goods must not be made in Israel or South Africa.

According to a consular source, import duties on the above items has been reduced by as much as 40 percent over the previous levels.

OMAN-PDRY RECONCILIATION AGREEMENT HAILED

GF161925 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 16 Nov 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Reconciliation Between Muscat and Aden Is A Gulf and Arab Achievement"]

[Text] After the ratification of the reconciliation agreement between Oman and the PDRY by the decisionmakers in Muscat and Aden, it becomes important that the two fraternal countries should hurry up in executing all the articles of the agreement in order to set up a good and realistic example that the Gulf states are capable of resolving their differences without any foreign interference.

Keeping the region away from ambitious international forces is not only an objective around which all the honestmen in the Arab Gulf rally, but is also the basic foundation for building a regional security strategy that can be a correct and realistic alternative for all the foreign views which are aimed at proposing the Arab Gulf security out of the region.

While the reconciliation agreement is considered a coronation of the wishes of the peoples in the two fraternal countries, it is also considered a great victory for the Arab peoples throughout the Arab world and reflects at the same time the possibility of Arab-Arab reconciliation on the entire Arab arena.

It is important here to hail the fraternal and responsible role played bythe UAE and Kuwait in converging views of the two fraternal countries and in facilitating all the difficulties which accompanied the march of reconciliation between them. This is an indication that the experience of the UAE and Kuwait can be repeated by other Arab parties to bring success to any mediation between two or more Arab countries whose relations are suffering from tension or disagreement. The current Arab situation, which is witnessing an escalating U.S.-Israeli attack against the national wishes of the Arab people, is in need of such responsible initiatives, especially after discovering the trench of the enemies of the Arabs, all their plans for occupying Palestine and dominating the Arab achievements, their lands, wealth, identity and national culture.

PDRY

CHAIRMAN INTERVIEWED ON ARAB, U.S. INITIATIVES

GF140634 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Interview with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP secretary general, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, by the Palestinian News Agency, WAFA -- date, place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] What is your stand on the Reagan plan and on the Arab plan that was adopted during the Fes summit? What about the other plans?

[Answer] There is no doubt that the Arab peace plan, which was approved by all the Arab countries that attended the Fes summit, including the PLO, represents the form accepted by the Arabs to establish peace in the Middle East on the basis of a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab Palestinian people's question in a manner that guarantees their right to self-determination, the right to return to their homeland, and to establish their independent state under the leadership of their only legitimate representative, the PLO.

Contrary to that, the Reagan plan further augments complications in the Middle East situation because it ignores the rights of the Palestinian people in the Arab territories occupied by Israel and because it [words indistinct] of the Arab-Israel and because it [words indistinct] of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Furthermore, it is biased toward Israel. The Reagan plan reiterates the U.S. policy, which is hostile to the hopes and aspirations of our Arab peoples and which is supportive of Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy. Thus, this plan is [word indistinct] just like the other plans the United States has been trying to impose on the region, the most recent of which was Camp David. These plans did not succeed in eliminating hotbeds of tension or in achieving peace in the region.

[Question] What is the PDRY stand on and role in the questions of the Horn of Africa, the Red Sea, and the Arabian Gulf in view of the imperialist-Zionist threats and current challenges?

[Answer] Our stand has been and still is represented in our eagerness to protect these regions from the threats of an imperialist military presence and to improve the chances of peace and stability among its states in a manner that will guarantee the progress and prosperity of these nations and preserve their national sovereignty before the aggressive dangers that threaten them due to the imperialist military presence. There is still need to improve peace efforts aimed at making the Arabian Gulf and the Horn of Africa regions of secure peace, keeping them away from any form of imperialist military presence and threat of aggression.

ADEN ASSAILS U.S.-MOROCCAN MILITARY MANEUVERS

GF101836 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Nov 82

["News and Comment" program by Ja'far 'Aydarus]

[Text] The U.S. naval and airborne forces are currently staging joint maneuvers with Moroccan forces in Moroccan territorial waters and on Moroccan territory.

The United States had announced previously that it would stage joint maneuvers with a number of Arab countries. This matter has amazed and been denounced by the Arab and African communities, especially because Morocco was the host of the recent Arab summit conference in Fes and because it signed the decisions of this conference, which held the United States responsible for the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the operations of annihilation and carnage against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and considered the U.S. military presence in the Arab region to be the main threat to the independence and stability of the Arab countries and their peoples. Among the other important decisions of that conference were the elimination of disagreements among Arab countries and the restoration of their anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist solidarity -- (?a matter which has begun to make progress).

Hence, it seems clear that Moroccan acquiescence to staging military maneuvers with the U.S. forces on Moroccan territory constitutes a flagrant violation of the spirit and texts of the Fes summit decisions, whether with respect to the denunciation of the United States and to the stand thereon, or with respect to coordination and mending of relations among Arab countries and their anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist policies.

Therefore, in light of this serious violation of the Fes summit decisions by Morocco -- decisions to which commitment was the last chance for the Arab summit conference to succeed, due to the special circumstances which characterized this summit and due to the fact that anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity was to be reached by the summit -- Morocco and all other countries that can violate these decisions and encourage the hostile U.S. military presence on their soil and the enhancement of the U.S. threat to the Arab peoples should bear the political and historic responsibility for ignoring the agreed-upon stands and provisions aimed at protecting the existence, legitimacy, security and stability of the Arab homeland and its people.

Moroccan and U.S. plans of staging joint maneuvers have created a state of anxiety over the importance of the provisions of any joint or bilateral document on the prerequisites, efforts and [word indistinct] of anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity.

While firmly denouncing this unjustifiable serious step of aborting the Fes summit decisions and escalating tension in the African Arab north, our country believes that all signatories to the Fes summit decisions and all responsible forces all over the Arab homeland should encircle and curb such a stand resulting from this unjustifiable and irresponsible step taken by the Moroccan regime so that imperialism and Zionism will not be able to abort the Fes summit decisions, deepen schism and tension, and seek to impose submission and control over the Arab homeland and its peoples.

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL PAYS VISIT

Arrives 15 November

GF152000 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] An Iranian delegation led by Iranian deputy Foreign Minister [Mohammad Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived in Aden this evening on a short visit to our country, during which he will hold talks with officials on strengthening relations between the two friendly countries.

In a statement to ANA, he said that his visit is within the framework of a tour that includes the Arab Republic of Syria, Libya and the Democratic Republic of Algeria for the purpose of unifying [words indistinct] and stand together against (?U.S.) imperialism and its plans to impose control on the region's peoples. He was received by Deputy Foreign Minister Brother [name indistinct] and the Iranian ambassador in Aden and chairman of [words indistinct] Department at the Foreign Ministry.

Meets With 'Antar

GF161540 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Staff Brig Gen Brother 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, met in his office today with the Iranian delegation currently visiting our country. Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, deputy foreign minister for political affairs, is leading the delegation.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on improving relations between the PDRY and Iran to serve the interests and the aspirations of the two fraternal peoples as well as on the situation in the Arab region, especially the Palestinian issue and what is required in this regard from all progressive national forces to support the Palestinian people's cause in their right for return, self-determination and for establishing their independent national state and to repulse all imperialist and reactionary plots aimed at undermining their legitimate rights.

The two sides also discussed the reinforcement of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front to counter imperialist and reactionary plots in the region.

The Iranian delegation lauded the PDRY's stand on all situations in the region; the two sides stressed the need to enhance friendship and cooperation between the two peoples and revolutions in the two fraternal countries.

Departs 16 November

GF170512 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The Iranian delegation led by Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, deputy foreign affairs minister [for political affairs] left Aden yesterday after a short visit to the PDRY.

The delegation held talks with top state and party officials, foremost of whom was Staff Brig Gen Brother 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. Talks focused on the situation in the Arab region, particularly the Palestinian issue and the (?stances) needed by the progressive powers to support the Palestinian people's issues.

In a statement to ANC, Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam noted the success of his talks and the identical views on all the issues that were discussed. He indicated that he exchanged views with the brother officials on the situation in the Arab region.

YAR

PRIME MINISTER LEAVES WITH MESSAGE FOR SADDAM HUSAYN

GF131933 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee Committee [of the General People's Congress], left the country for Baghdad this afternoon leading a delegation consisting of Lt Col 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee; Dr Ahmad al-Asfahi, minister of education and secretary of the Standing Committee; and a number of officials.

In a statement to Saba' News Agency, the brother prime minister and member of the Standing Committee said that he is carrying a message from Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to his brother, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn Husayn, dealing with the new developments in the region and coordination regarding the threat to the Arab nation and the principled stance of the YAR in support of Iraq. In his statement, the brother prime minister affirmed that the current situation in the region indicates the dimensions of the threat to the Arab nation. Dr al-'Iryani concluded his statement by saying that what is required now is to execute the Arab decision on the Gulf war, which was overwhelmingly adopted by the Fes summit.

He was seen off at the airport by a number of ministers and members of the Standing Committee of the General People's Congress.

OFFICIAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS PAPER PUBLISHED

GF161920 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The first issue No. 0 [number as heard] of the weekly newspaper AL-MITHAQ, official organ for the General People's Congress, was issued today.

Under the title "Toward the Future," the issue talked about the enormity of September, the humane revolution which sprang from humane [words indistinct] in countering [words indistinct] struggle tasks in the Yemeni life.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT FOR POWERPLANT -- An agreement for constructing and installing a steam station for the central generation of electrical power in the YAR was signed with the Italian company (Ensanbwa) today. The station will cost 931 million [presumably riyals] and will have an overall power capacity of 160,000 kw. [San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 14 Nov 82 GF]

'ALI RETURNS TO CAIRO FOLLOWING 2-WEEK TOUR

NC161754 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali returned to Cairo this evening at the conclusion of his 2-week tour during which he visited Turkey, Canada and the United States.

In a statement after his return, in which he reviewed the results of his tour, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said his visit to Turkey, which was the first leg of his tour, dealt with strengthening bilateral relations and with an exchange of views on the Middle East situation in view of Turkey's position as one of the states interested in stability and security for all Middle East peoples.

He added that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's message, which he delivered to Turkish President Kenan Evren, dealt with subjects of mutual interest with a view to achieving stronger bilateral relations.

'Ali added that his visit to Canada, which was the first by an Egyptian foreign minister to that country since 1955, provided an opportunity to exchange views with Canadian officials, who affirmed their positions in support of a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East problem.

He said he discussed bilateral relations in the various fields and subjects pertaining to nuclear energy as well as the possibility of Egyptian-Canadian cooperation in this sphere.

Regarding his visit to the United States, 'Ali said he conveyed President Husni Mubarak's message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. He also met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and exchanged views with him on the Lebanese crisis and ways of working toward a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis on the basis of President Reagan's initiative.

He added that he also discussed relations between Egypt and Israel and the Tabah problem. He pointed out that there is a firm desire by the United States to solve the Tabah problem as soon as possible on the basis of the 25 April agreement between Egypt and Israel. He also discussed bilateral Egyptian-U.S. relations in the economic sphere. He said the Americans have a firm desire to support the Egyptian economy. 'Ali also said that during his visit he met with the director of the World Bank.

Replying to a question on an imminent visit to the area by George Shultz, 'Ali said such a visit has not been discussed, but Philip Habib, after his appointment as President Reagan's envoy in the Middle East, is expected to visit the area, including Egypt.

Regarding the U.S. role in pushing the negotiations on Tabah, 'Ali said there are efforts to convene a tripartite meeting among Egypt, the United States and Israel.

Replying to another question on Egypt's purchasing nuclear energy plants from Canada, 'Ali said this is part of Egypt's nuclear energy program. The instruments of ratification regarding cooperation in the nuclear energy spheres between Egypt and Canada have been exchanged.

Replying to a question about the PLO's request for U.S. guarantees for a comprehensive settlement, 'Ali said: The organization is prepared to participate in the comprehensive settlement efforts. The recent statements by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat support the organization's adherence to a peaceful solution on the basis of the Fes summit resolutions and consideration of all the other initiatives.

MAY SAYS MUBARAK TO VISIT U.S. IN JANUARY

PM161727 Cairo MAY in Arabic 15 Nov 82 p 1

[MAY correspondent's dispatch from Washington]

[Text] President Husni Mubarak will pay an official visit to the United States in the last week of January. The final date of the visit will be announced in an official statement to be issued simultaneously in Cairo and Washington. President Mubarak will hold meetings with President Reagan, the secretaries of state and defense, some congressmen, and members of the National Security Council.

Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal has told MAY that the significance of President Mubarak's visit to Washington lies in the fact that it will follow President Reagan's consultations with Arab leaders and his talks with King Husayn. It will also coincide with U.S. efforts to push the Reagan initiative toward implementation.

Dr Ghurbal added that President Reagan is looking forward to his meeting with President Mubarak and to knowing President Mubarak's views and proposals, particularly because the United States feels and emphasizes that Egypt plays a leading and important role in promoting a settlement in the Middle East.

President Mubarak's visit to the United States will follow Kamal Hasan 'Ali's visit and Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah's visit to Washington and will also come after Philip Habib's tour of the region.

Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah is due in Washington 20 November. His talks will begin on 22 November. Egypt has already requested that military allocations be increased from $1.3 billion to $1.7 billion next year.

ABU GHAZALAH TO START U.S. VISIT 20 NOVEMBER

NC170759 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) -- Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production will begin talks with officials at the U.S. Defense Department next Monday, when he will meet with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger.

On Tuesday, he will meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan's adviser for national security, William Clark. He is also expected to meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

AL-AHRAM today reports that during his visit to Washington, where he will arrive next Saturday, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah will visit the Norfolk area on Wednesday, where he will see the early-warning E-2C planes, which Egypt wants to obtain.

'SOURCES IN CAIRO' EXPECT 'ARAFAT VISIT SOON

GF161025 Doha QNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Doha, 16 Nov (QNA) -- The Qatari paper AL-'ARAB today quotes well-informed sources in Cairo as saying there is a good chance that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Egypt will take place just before President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States. Quoting these sources, the paper says: The Egyptian-Palestinian summit will focus on three issues that underwent preliminary discussions: 1) Egyptian-PLO relations, expansion of the activity of the PLO office in Cairo and the presence of some Palestinian forces in Egypt; 2) The stand toward the French-Egyptian peace initiative and the move to increase the momentum of this initiative with concentration on the Palestinian role and defining the PLO's role in representing Palestinian rights; 3) The stand on the launched peace initiatives with concentration on the Arab peace plan and the positive aspects of U.S. President Reagan's initiative.

The paper adds that there has been great progress toward an Egyptian-Palestinian agreement on many issues. The paper refers to the commitment of Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, PLO Executive Committee member, to hold talks with the Egyptian leadership on the Palestinian aspirations, goals, views and demands, indicating that this had an effective role in ensuring progress in Egyptian-Palestinian relations.

Furthermore, AL-'ARAB quotes the same source and indicates that Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will inform the Palestinian officials in Cairo of the results of his current visit to the United States, particularly those concerning the role of the PLO and the U.S. position toward the PLO.

MORE 'RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS' RELEASED 15 NOVEMBER

NC151352 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1335 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA) -- The State Security Supreme Prosecution today decided to release 78 defendants held on charges of belonging to extremist religious groups. This was stated by counselor Raja' al-'Arabi, the attorney general of the State Security Supreme Prosecution. He said the prosecution is currently studying the cases of some defendants before reaching a decision.

SUPREME COUNCIL FOR INTEGRATION TO MEET 5 DEC

NC162153 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2103 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 16 Nov (MENA) -- The Supreme Council for Integration between Egypt and Sudan will hold its first meeting on 5 December in Khartoum under the chairmanship of Presidents Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri.

AL-AHRAM, which reports this in Wednesday's issue, adds that the Nile Valley Parliament will hold its first session during the first half of January in the Sudanese capital.

SADDAM HUSAYN ADDRESSES FIGHTERS ON OFFENSIVE

JN161610 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1505 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Address by President Saddam Husayn to a group of Iraqi fighters to whom he presented medals of valor on 16 November -- read by announcer]

[Text] We meet today with another group of our valiant fighters from the Iraqi Armed Forces, the courageous artillery men. As you all know, before the war the artillery did not enjoy the status it enjoys now. Today, everyone knows the impact the artillery can have and consequently it is enjoying the status that it rightfully deserves. Artillerymen have fought in a heroic and distinguished manner. I do not say this to flatter; this is the truth as I see it and this is the consensus of all the fighters on all the fronts. There are stories, some of which you know, about the artillerymen whom the enemy succeeded in infiltrating into their batteries and their battalions. They fought an enemy with their personal weapons in defense of their guns. This is how the sons of Iraq act in all army formations. Today, however, our artillery has reached a point which makes us proud of it.

Please convey my greetings to your brother fighters in all the artillery units and my wishes for prosperity. Perhaps you do not know that the foolhardy and suspect enemy this morning waged two wide-scale offensives against the II and IV Army Corps in the Mandali sector. This offensive was defeated. The entire enemy force was destroyed and those who escaped death fled while some others were captured. In addition, some serviceable military hardware and weapons were also captured.

In the IV Army Corps sector the enemy also tried to attack from nearly the same directions in the hope of obtaining something that would achieve its designs for expansion. The enemy completely failed there and retreated, humiliated, after the destruction of its main force and the capture of several of its members. Several serviceable tanks and some military hardware were captured in the II Army Corps sector. The offensive was defeated early this morning.

In the IV Army Corps sector, the offensive was defeated as a result of fighting which lasted all night and this morning. The offensive was defeated before noon.

It goes without saying that the artillery played an important role in defeating this offensive and in inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

God bless you all and convey my greetings to your brothers.

SADDAM HUSAYN: NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT

JN161442 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has stated that there is no other choice but to fight when the enemy imposes the war on the Iraqi people.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that the war will continue if the Iranian regime remains intransigent and until it respects Iraq's independence and security and does not interfere in its domestic affairs. The president explained that peace between Iran and Iraq is possible and it will take place when Khomeyni fails to achieve his designs for expansion at the expense of Iraq and the Arab homeland.

These statements were made during an interview President Saddam Husayn granted to several U.S. journalists here today.

President Saddam Husayn added that the Iraqi people, who had offered their blood to protect their honor and homeland, are surely capable of resisting economic pressures and are able to keep Iraq lofty, secure and independent. He emphasized that there are strong relations between those who fight at the front in defense of their homeland, and their honor and the regime that guides their course toward dignity and better life.

In reply to questions posed by the U.S. journalists, President Saddam Husayn spoke about the Palestinian cause in particular and the Arab situation in general, outlining Iraq's principled, firm and progressive concept of relations with all the countries irrespective of the nature of their social and political regimes and Iraq's moves in the international arena based on equality, joint interests and the general welfare of mankind at large.

The interview was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister; Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im Rashid, head of the president's office and acting RCC secretary; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information; and the director general of the Press and Information Department in the president's office.

U.S. JOURNALISTS TOUR MANDALI SECTOR 16 NOV

JN162042 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- A U.S. press delegation, which is currently visiting Iraq, today toured the II Army Corps sector in the border area of Mandali.

The commander of the II Army Corps met with the U.S. journalists and explained the progress of the battle which the Iraqi forces settled today, foiling the Iranian offensive against this sector.

The U.S. journalists met with several Iranian soldiers who were taken prisoner by the Iraqi forces today. The journalists also toured Mandali and saw the results of the enemy's indiscriminate shelling of the city's residential areas.

KHAYRALLAH SENDS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO PRESIDENT

JN161454 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces have renewed their complete allegiance to their leader, President Saddam Husayn.

In a message to President Saddam Husayn today, Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the armed forces and defense minister, said that the armed forces are more determined than ever to pursue the struggle until they achieve final victory.

He stressed that the Iraqi forces will continue their march under President Saddam Husayn's leadership to shatter the dreams of the covetous aggressors, wrest the Iraqi people's right to sovereignty over their land and choose the appropriate way of life.

Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah stressed that the Iraqi forces will never accept any tutelage by any foreigner and that they will never go back.

MANDALI, MAYSAN BATTLE OFFENSIVES 'REPULSED'

Military Spokesman Statement

GF161208 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Statement issued by military spokesman on 16 November -- place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. From dawn today our aircraft and helicopters, in magnificent coordination with our heroic ground units, have been bravely confronting the enemy forces and their desperate attacks in the Mandali area in the central sector and in the Maysan area in the southern sector, and striking at the enemy's armored and various other vehicles and at the enemy remnants fleeing the battlefield, inflicting very heavy losses on them.

Our aircraft and helicopters also attacked enemy military targets deep inside enemy territory in the abovementioned sectors, scoring direct and effective hits. The enemy forces were gripped with panic and confusion as a result of our aircraft attacks today. Our fighters and helicopters continue to carry out their battle duties and destroy the remaining enemy forces who dared to repeat their new adventure in the two aforementioned sectors.

IV Corps Commander Comments

JN161358 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Southern sector, 16 Nov (INA) -- The staff major general commanding the IV Army Corps has stated that his forces have fiercely and strongly confronted the offensive launched by the Iranian forces this morning.

In a statement to INA, he said that all kinds of weapons were used in today's battles, during which severe blows were dealt to the enemy forces. He added that in today's battles, the enemy had sustained heavy losses in life and equipment and a large number of prisoners had been taken, an initial group of which had been evacuated to the rear.

He stressed that the Iraqi soldiers will continue to defend the homeland and sever all hands that try to play havoc with Iraq's sacred borders.

Communique No 905

JN161833 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1725 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Communique No 905 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 16 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And cast terror into their hearts. So that some ye slew, and some ye made prisoners. [Koranic verse]

Glorious Iraqi people, the heroes of our armed forces and the sons of the glorious Arab nation wherever you may be:

With each day that passes in the war, which has been imposed on our lofty country, the soldiers of right and principles reiterate that they are worthy of brandishing the banner of honor to defend Iraq's sovereignty and the Arab nation's dignity while the collaborators of charlatan Khomeyni prove the extent of their racism and the degree of their involvement in rancor and deception. Once again they tried, with bad luck, for success to heal the serious wounds and the heavy losses they sustained over the past few days in the epics east of Basra, the area opposite Mandali and in the Maysan operational theater, by pushing new forces to the crematorium of death last night and at dawn today in the central and southern sectors of the battlefield. The results are as follows:

1. At 2130 last night, 15 November, the enemy attacked our units opposite Mandali in the central sector. Our valiant forces intercepted the enemy forces and clashed with them in fierce battles, during which our units fought with extreme courage and succeeded in repulsing the enemy offensive and wiping out the attacking force. The known enemy losses so far number 2,652 killed and large numbers of wounded and prisoners. Our forces also captured several serviceable tanks.

2. At 0310 today, 16 November, the enemy launched an offensive on our units in the Maysan operational sector. Our valiant forces confronted the offensive and completely foiled it after waging fierce battles with the enemy during which they taught the enemy harsh lessons and destroyed the majority of the attacking force. Known enemy losses number 1,326 killed, large numbers of wounded, scores of enemy prisoners and 10 tanks, and 15 personnel carriers destroyed. Several serviceable tanks and personnel carriers were also captured.

Thus, the known enemy losses in the central and southern sectors of the battlefield as a result of the enemy's aborted adventure last night and this morning number 3,978 killed, large numbers of wounded and prisoners and 10 tanks and 15 personnel carriers destroyed in addition to the capture of several serviceable tanks and personnel carriers.

3. As part of a well-prepared and coordinated plan, our valiant air force aircraft and helicopters have been participating with our units since dawn today in confronting the enemy's treacherous aggression in the area opposite Mandali in the central sector and in the sector of the Maysan operational theater in the southern sector by raiding enemy concentrations, armor and equipment and the enemy remnants that were fleeing the battlefield. They inflicted more losses in life and equipment on them.

Our aircraft carried out 128 combat missions today. Our helicopters carried out 42 combat missions. All our aircraft and helicopters returned safely to base.

O glorious Iraqis and valiant fighters, you have thus repulsed the invaders and kept your heads high and safeguarded your honor. God is great. Loftiness to Iraq and the glorious Arab nation.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 November

PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS TO VISIT AMMAN SOON

JN160902 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Nov 82 pp 1, 17

[Text] It has been learned that a number of Palestinian officials, including Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, Fatah Central Committee member, and Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, are expected to arrive in Amman during the next few days.

During their visit to Jordan, the Palestinian officials will continue the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, which assumed a new course during 'Arafat's recent visit to Jordan.

YUGOSLAV PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES 16 NOV

JN170941 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] A Yugoslav parliamentary delegation headed by Nikola Kmezic, president of the Chamber of Republics and Provinces of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly, arrived in Amman last night on a 4-day visit to Jordan during which he will meet with His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, regent and prime minister. The delegation will also meet the senate president, the speaker of the National Consultative Council and the trade and industry minister.

On arrival, Kmezic said the Yugoslav-Jordanian march in accordance with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and under the Yugoslav and Jordanian leaderships, has made great achievements in all fields. The meetings of the Nonaligned Movement have also greatly benefited the movement. Kmezic described Yugoslav-Jordanian relations in all fields as excellent.

KING HUSAYN TO MAKE TOUR OF ARAB COUNTRIES

GF170833 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0755 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Doha, 17 Nov (WAKH) — Press reports noted here that King Husayn will undertake a tour of Arab countries, including Arab Gulf countries, in order to inform their leaders of the results of the mission of the seven-member committee, which is currently visiting Paris under his chairmanship.

The Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB quoted Arab sources, which it referred to as well-informed, who said that during the next few days the Jordanian king will convey messages on this matter to a number of Arab leaders through Jordanian envoys.

KING HUSAYN MEETS WITH MITTERRAND ON MIDDLE EAST

For Paris AFP reportage on King Husayn's visit to France and his talks with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 17 November Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

AL-JUMAYYIL RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA 15 NOV

NC151520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Excerpt] President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and his delegation returned to Beirut from Saudi Arabia at 1650 today, concluding a 2-day visit.

AL-WAZZAN INTERVIEWED ON WITHDRAWAL, SAUDI TALKS

NC162146 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has affirmed that Lebanon is no longer weak. It has become strong, following President al-Jumayyil's international tour and his recent visit to Saudi Arabia. Prime Minister al-Wazzan emphasized that Lebanon will not be in a contemptible position and will not be discouraged. Also, it will not allow anyone to treat it as such. He added that he will tackle the issue of the Israeli withdrawal with a Lebanese vigor that will shake the world, and that we will not make the occupation a cause for our weakness. On the contrary, we will delineate our course from it to make our vigor and our readiness to sacrifice clear so we may evacuate the Israelis without achieving their objectives on our territory.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed his satisfaction with the results of the visit to Saudi Arabia. He said the visit was short in duration but complete in its results. He pointed out that the Lebanese officials were sure that the kingdom's efforts and pure, good stands since the beginning of the crisis in Lebanon and the Israeli invasion were an important matter. They were also convinced that they would find in the kingdom the complete and required help.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan affirmed that during the official talks, the points of view were identical on more than one issue, particularly regarding the withdrawals and the Syrian and Palestinian presence. However, the concentration was on finding a method with which the steps for the Israeli withdrawal may be expedited.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan affirmed to the Saudi leaders that Lebanon racing against time and that every passing day is important, since in a few months, the United States will enter an election process and, thus, it may find an excuse for not playing the role required of it, whether regarding the Middle East issue or regarding Lebanon. He said the Americans up to now are actually willing to expedite the withdrawal process and that they have specified a date for it -- not after the end of this year. He considered the initiative taken by President Reagan and that taken by the Fes Arab summit conference as positive change. He called for seizing this golden opportunity to bring the positive [aspects] in the two initiatives closer and to reach a solution.

He explained that the Syrian and Palestinian presence in Al-Biqa' and the north are not in themselves a problem. He said the information and the reassurances available to us through direct and indirect contacts make us confident that the withdrawal of the Syrians and the Palestinians will take place at the appropriate time and that none will leave a pretext for Israel to continue its occupation of Lebanon.

The prime minister, who was talking in a televised interview, announced that everyone is convinced of the necessity of not linking the Lebanese issue to the Middle East crisis.

However, he emphasized that the fundamental condition for the success of this separation process is the unity of Lebanese ranks, and not allowing anyone to exploit any weak point. He said only unity among the citizens will foil all the pretexts and close passage in the face of winds and storms. In this regard, he pointed ut that the implementation of the national service law is at hand so cohesion may be sustained among the youth, and the capability and effectiveness of the Lebanese Army may be increased so it may assume its security tasks over every inch of Lebanon's territory. However, in the course of his comments on the expansion of the multinational force, he denied the possibility that this force may be infused by Arab forces.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan did not conceal his anxiety over the continuation of the Palestinian presence on Lebanese territory, since the continuation of this presence may bode difficulties and lack of stability. However, the proposal presented by the Lebanese delegation to Saudi Arabia regarding the Palestinian civilian presence and its future was enough, and complete to the extent that no question was posed.

He added that what took place in Tyre has destroyed the Israeli theory of security. Neither the security of Galilee nor any other place can guarantee the security of Israel; only justice is the fundamental guarantee. It has been said that justice is the basis of dominion.

'SOURCES' VIEW AL-JUMAYYIL TALKS IN RIYADH

NC161750 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Informed Lebanese political sources today said President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Saudi Arabia has achieved its objectives with complete success and that its results will be shortly translated into pratical accomplishments in all domains. President al-Jumayyil's visit to Saudi Arabia, and the information available about the talks which he held with Saudi King Fahd, have aroused great hopes in Lebanese political circles on the possibility of implementing the withdrawal of all the non-Lebanese forces, in view of the Saudi role and its Arab and international weight.

President al-Jumayyil and Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim reviewed the results of the discussions he held with the Saudi monarch, regarding Lebanese official efforts to guarantee the withdrawal of the non-Lebanese forces and the projects prepared to reconstruct Lebanon.

DRUZE GROUP CALLS FOR ARMY DEPLOYMENT IN MOUNTAIN

NC161250 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The executive bureau of the Lebanese Druze grouping held an emergency session this morning to follow up developments in the situation in Lebanon. The bureau announced that the grouping acknowledged with great satisfaction the president's activity at the international and Arab levels, hoping that his activity will reflect positively on the Lebanese arena. The grouping said it is distressed by the recent events in the mountain area and the current attempts to destroy whatever is left intact of the homeland.

A statement by the grouping said the mountain area is a victim of a plot against it and its citizens. What is taking place is an attempt to fragment the unity of our homeland, which will succeed unless such an attempt is immediately contained and checked. Its consequences are grave, and it is against the will of all sincere citizens.

The grouping confirms, with tangible evidence available to it, that all these conflicts are planned and that the quarter behind these conflicts encourages and feeds them. This quarter is well-known to everyone and is rejected by everyone. This does not mean we accept what has happened. We regret the reasons causing this and its subsequent reactions. The Druze have no demand other than a free and dignified life in their homeland, and they accept no domination by any party. We are loyal only to the legitimate Lebanese authority.

The Lebanese Druze grouping repeats its demand for the army deployment in the mountain area and for an effective presence of the internal security forces. It is time that law and justice take their course, and the original cohesion -- which time failed to destroy -- be revived.

FIRST WITHDRAWALS TO BEGIN AFTER HABIB ARRIVAL

NC161735 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1645 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Informed sources have said envoy Philip Habib is expected to arrive in Beirut on Thursday or the beginning of next week to speed up negotiations on the withdrawal of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon. The sources added that the first stage of withdrawal will take place 15 days after Habib's arrival and will end before Christmas. This stage will involve a Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal toward Al-Biqa' and the north and an Israeli withdrawal toward Ad-Damur, and broader deployment of the Lebanese Army forces and the multinational force, the size of which will increase to 8,000 troops after the participation of other European states.

ISRAELI SOLDIER CLAIMS 300 KILLED IN TYRE BLAST

NC161454 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1330 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Information reported to the Voice of Arab Lebanon on the courageous operation, which was aimed at the Zionist military command headquarters in Tyre last Thursday, has affirmed that more than 400 Israeli officers and soldiers were inside the Zionist command headquarters when it was blown up.

The information affirms that a large number of officers were killed in the incident: two colonels, (Sa'adya Mu'ad and Moshe 'Umayl); four lieutenant colonels, (Hayim Mudar), (Siyyan Hadjub), (Me'ir Ben-Moshe) and (Sami Manbar); as well as a major, (Ze'ev Hanan).

This information is sustained by a wounded Zionist soldier who is hospitalized at Rambam hospital in Haifa. He told IDF radio that the number of wounded and killed announced was not accurate. He added that the number of dead officers and soldiers is more than 300.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM RETURNS HOME FROM PARIS

JN162140 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Excerpts] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Damascus from Paris this evening after participating in the work of the seven-member Arab committee stemming from the Fes summit. The committee's mission is to explain the Fes summit resolutions to the countries which are permanent members of the UN Security Council.

After leaving the Elysee Palace, Khaddam made a statement to the press in which he said: I am part of a unified Arab delegation to submit the recent Fes summit resolutions to the French president.

When asked about differences between Syria and the PLO, Khaddam stressed that there are no differences.

In reply to a question on whether there are differences between the Arab stand and France, Khaddam said: Yes, there are differences about the situation in the Middle East. The Arab and French stands, however, are not that contradictory.

AZ-ZU'BI REELECTED PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER

JN161953 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The People's Assembly today reelected Engineer Mahmud Muslih az-Zu'bi as its speaker for the second year in a row.

IRANIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

JN162016 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1916 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Mohammad Reza E'temadian, Iranian deputy prime minister, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Damascus this evening on a visit of several days to Syria. He was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by Minister of Religious Trusts Muhammad al-Khatib, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus and ranking ministry officials.

The purpose of the visit is to meet with Syrian officials with the framework of the cordial and fraternal relations between the two friendly countries to consolidate the joint struggle against the Zionist and imperialist schemes.

AL-ASAD REPORTEDLY VISITED MOSCOW '2 WEEKS AGO'

GF161406 Doha QNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 16 Nov (QNA) -- The Kuwaiti weekly magazine MIRA'T AL-UMMAH said in its issue to be published here tomorrow that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad visited Moscow 2 weeks ago and met with the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. The magazine added that his visit was made after the meeting between the Syrian president and Erich Honecker during the latter's recent visit to Damascus.

Erich Honecker spoke in the name of the Eastern bloc and promised military, political and economic assistance after a strategic agreement is agreed upon between Moscow and Damascus to confront the U.S. policy in the Middle East.

SHAMIR SAYS PLO MUST EVACUATE LEBANON FIRST

TA161323 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said this afternoon that the PLO must leave Lebanon before the IDF or Syrian forces. Shamir was speaking to a group of Jewish leaders and U.S. congressmen who are visiting the region. He revealed that Israel is waiting for the United States to clarify in the next few days if the withdrawal of troops from Lebanon is indeed to begin. He stressed that a peace treaty between Israel and Lebanon is not a condition for Israel's withdrawal, but Israel wants to achieve a de facto peace between the two countries.

ISRAEL READY FOR FORCE DISENGAGEMENT WITH SYRIA

TA161527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir has said that Israel is nov ready for a disengagement of forces with Syria, before talks begin with the Lebanese Government. Our correspondent David Essing has reported that in a talk with a delegation in New York, Ben-Mei'ir said that is there is a disengagement of forces, Lebanese soldiers would enter the strip between the IDF and the Syrian Army. So far, the Syrians have shown no signs of willingness for a simultaneous withdrawal from Lebanon with the IDF.

SHARON ON CONDITIONS FOR LEBANON WITHDRAWAL

TA161225 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1155 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said today he insists that a written agreement be signed between Israel and the Lebanese Government on the issue of bilateral security arrangements. The defense minister was speaking at a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, and our correspondent Razi Barqay reports:

[Barqay -- live] Ari'el Sharon described to the committee the stages of the arrangements in Lebanon. The first stage is a pullout of all the terrorists, totalling 7,000, and the eradications of their presence, including their offices.

The second state is the evacuation of the foreign forces: The Syrians will first of all depart from the mountains to the Al-Biqa' area and be replaced by a multinatonal force. Only then will the IDF withdraw to the 45-km area. However, Sharon emphasized that this would not take place before the Israeli prisoners and the bodies of Israeli victims, if there are any, are returned.

The IDF will hold onto the 45-km line until the security arrangements with Lebanon are signed in a written document. These arrangements will include several components: the presence of the Lebanese Army in the south, a ban on the introduction of artillery weapons, joint supervision arrangements by the Lebanese Army and the IDF. In spite of criticism, Sharon notes tht these objectives in Lebanon will be achieved.

MK Sarid demands a unilateral withdrawal to the 40-km line and that Israel abandon goals which, according to him, are political illusions and the consequence of the pursuit of prestige which has nothing to do with security.

Sarid's remarks at once provoked reactions by Likud members. Beni Shalita said: I deplore those who believe that we should not have set out to war. Qiryat Shemona would have then become a ghost town. The damage of the criticism by Alignment members persists to this very day. Ehud Olmert noted: Sarid speaks about futile victims. In that case, are his comrades in the Alignment who supported Operation Peace for Galilee also accused of sacrificing human life for prestige?

Ge'ula Kohen stated: Some of the victims lie on the conscience of those who sapped others' strength. Yitzhaq Rabin asked: Is the abolishment of the state of war with Lebanon a prerequisite for our pullout from there? Sharon referred Rabin to the prime minister.

A minor incident occurred between Ari'el Sharon and Abba Eban. Eban called out to Sharon: After all, the prime minister himself declared in the Knesset that the IDF would stop [several words indistinct due to disruption in transmission] and would not go inside. Sharon replied: Begin did not mean that the IDF would stand [words indistinct] and would take the fire; do not put words in the prime minister's mouth, your words are enough.

Sharon reiterated his view that the PLO was dealt a severe blow, politically more than militarily. We did not get entangled in Lebaon, but we waged a war that will bear fruit, Sharon concluded.

'SOURCES' OUTLINE LEBANON SECURITY DEMANDS

TA161854 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal -- live]

[Text] The security strip between Israel's northern border and the Al-'Awwali River is presently one of the main burning issues engaging top IDF echelons. Israel insists that there be no foreign forces in this security strip and that control over the area be only in the hands of the Lebanese Army. Israel will not agree to the placing of cannons, katyusha launchers, tanks or mortars in the security strip. Israel insists that it play a role in the control of the security strip as part of the security arrangements agreement.

Israeli sources, whose identities cannot be disclosed, are holding secret contacts with Lebanon through the Americans and by other channels. And this week the date for the beginning of the negotiations over the withdrawal was made public. Israel insists that the security arrangements ensure that there will be no foreign forces in all of Lebanon unless agreed upon. However, as stated, this would not apply to southern Lebanon. Israel is not opposed to the entry of the multinational force into the Al-Matn area in the central sector, if the Syrians leave this area. Israel would not object to the multinational force replacing them and preventing entry across the crossing points in the Dayr al-Baydar area from the direction of the Al-Biqa'.

The abovementioned contacts are being conducted on two matters: the security arrangements and the removal of foreign forces from Lebanon, the former matter having been given precedence because of its importance. In this context, we should mention the preservation of the air force's freedom to operate in Lebanese airspace and the maintenance of an early warning system in southern Lebanon and at control points. Also involved in these contacts are Foreign Ministry officials.

Moreover, unequivocal directives have been issued for the IDF units deployed in Lebanon to observe strict security measures to guarantee the soldiers' safety. Following repeated terrorist attempts to harm IDF soldiers, the IDF units are now being guarded with much greater vigilance then before. Incidentally, on the terrorist who was killed today after firing an RPG at an IDF patrol near Beirut airport, documents were found showing that he was an Iranian. The IDF is also taking strict security measures in the areas where clashes occurred between the Druze and the Christians to prevent IDF soldiers from being harmed.

The directive there is: We are not police and we are not a police force for the Druze or for the Christians.

Again on the expected negotiations, security figures distinguish four groups who pull the strings in Lebanon: President al-Jumayyil and his group; the Lebanese Forces, who in their organ, AL-AMAL, express their views in favor of peace with Israel, against the backdrop of a widening rift with the president; Muslim and Christian figures who favor peace or arrangements with Israel; and a coalition of forces in southern Lebanon, from Major Haddad's men to the Shi'ite majority there. The negotiations over security arrangements, then, will be influenced by the behavior of all these elements, among which and with whom it [Israel] must maneuver.

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that even in the first week of the war, Israel demarcated the area of Haddad's deployment and determined the extent of his participation in the security activity in southern Lebanon and decided that this area would extend to the Al-'Awwali River. As evidence, Haddad's men control the river's three crossing points. Sharon also said that a first step before any agreement or settlement -- without which nothing can be done -- is the return of all Israeli prisoners and the bodies of Israeli soldiers being held by the Syrians and the terrorists in Syria and the territory under their control.

KIMCHE HOLDS SECRET CONTACTS WITH LEBANESE

TA170558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0508 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Following a period of unwillingness to meet with Israeli figures, direct political contacts between representatives of Lebanon and Israel were resumed during the past several days. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche met secretly in Beirut with one of President al-Jumayyil's close advisers and discussed the future of bilateral arrangements. The defense minister also held political contacts. Last night, U.S. envoy Morris Draper arrived in Israel and immediately met with Kimche. The two will meet again this morning. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the contacts over the opening of the talks between Israel and Lebanon:

[Begin recording] The Cabinet will be asked to decide next Sunday on opening preliminary talks at the level of officials from Israel and Lebanon in Khaldah, near Beirut. This will be necessary because of a previous Cabinet decision that the talks on the security arrangements must be held at the ministerial level, and alternately in the two capitals, Jerusalem and Beirut.

In the latest contacts, it was made clear that the Lebanese Government is willing to send a delegation to the talks headed by a political adviser who is close to President al-Jumayyil, Antoine (Fatali), who served in the past as the director general of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry. Willingness was expressed to discuss full bilateral normalization. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche met secretly at the beginning of the week with (Fatali) and discussed with him these matters, including determination of the status of the Israeli Foreign Ministry representation in Beirut.

It should be said that in the past several days there were additional contacts between Israel and Lebanon, whose purpose was to clarify Jerusalem's positions. A few days ago, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon forcefully made clear -- in a certain way -- to President al-Jumayyil Israel's views about the future of bilateral relations. Thus, it is no coincidence that the Christian media in Lebanon again began to discuss the need for arranging relations with Israel.

As stated, there are different assessments concerning the chances of opening negotiations and one must wait until the talks begin before establishing whether or not progress has occurred.

IDF MEDIATION ENDS FIGHTING IN ASH-SHUF MOUNTAINS

TA161858 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1845 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 16 Nov (ITIM) -- IDF efforts to check the clashes between the Druze and the Christians in the Ash-Shuf mountains bore fruit this afternoon when the exchanges of fire stopped.

The exchanges of fire in the Ash-Shuf mountains resumed this morning after the explosion of a boobytrapped car on Sunday in the Druze town of 'Aramun, in which a child was killed and several local inhabitants were wounded.

Limited exchange of fire continued until this afternoon, when quiet was restored to these areas following IDF contacts with the rival sides.

'POLICE SOURCES': GAS LEAK CAUSED TYRE EXPLOSION

TA161324 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Following the collection of all the evidence in the area of the Tyre disaster, it has been determined that no bomb exploded in the building or beside it. This has been learned by our correspondent Shlomo Raz from high-ranking police sources. It appears that a gas leak in the kitchen of the border police unit caused the explosion and the collapse of the building. The findings of the inquiry commission will be released at the end of the week.

COMMENTATOR CRITICIZES SHARON COMMENTS ON LEBANON

TA161032 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 16 Nov 82 p 5

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "A Partial Withdrawal From Lebanon"]

[Text] Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's challenging declaration about the need for an "immediate and unconditional evacuation" of the IDF from Lebanon requires an immediate Israeli response.

Since the fighting in Lebanon stopped, and since the Syrian and Palestinian forces were evacuated from Beirut, the question has been constantly repeated among the Israeli public: "What are we still doing in Lebanon?" Reacting to the tragedy that occurred in Tyre last week, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon called for people to stop asking this question, explaining that the purpose of the Israeli presence in Lebanon is to guarantee peace for the Galilee. In briefings, official Israeli sources explain that the public statements by the Lebanese "should not be taken seriously," because in private conversations they say the opposite and ask the IDF to remain in their country. The same sources add that if the Government of Israel were to decide on a unilateral IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, President Amin al-Jumayyil would "implore" it to leave its forces in his country....

I doubt the credibility of this assessment.

If this were so, then Israel would have a definite interest in proving to international public opinion that its presence in Lebanon fits in with the desire of Lebanon's sovereign government and therefore Israel should not be regarded as an invader, ignoring the specific instructions of the Security Council.

In such a case, it would even be worthwhile for the Government of Lebanon to make several "political gestures" toward Israel to make sure that the IDF would remain in its country.

The truth is otherwise. The reason for the continued IDF presence in Lebanon is political, not security.

Since Israel has not succeeded in obtaining its political goals in the Lebanese war, the government is straining to obtain the "appearance" of a political achievement, and so it is trying to impose "arrangements" on Lebanon which the Al-Wazzan government cannot accept. Just as waging the war was intended to achieve political goals bringing a "new order" to Lebanon; the election of a president who would sign a peace treaty with Israel; the evacuation of the Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon, so the continuing Israeli presence in Lebanon is also intended for political purposes -- an open border and "normalization" in economic and tourism relations. But the government's insistence on obtaining the "appearance" of a political achievement could be painful.

This is particularly applicable in view of the increasing activity on the Palestinian issue and the continued presence of the Syrian and Palestinian forces in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and Tripoli areas. On the day the terrorists' evacuation from Beirut was completed, President Reagan publicized his plan for a solution to the Palestinian problem in the West Bank, through a link with Jordan. Egypt officially expressed its support for the U.S. plan; Israel rejected it on the spot. The Arab countries -- other than the PLO -- have not yet publicly mentioned the Reagan plan, but it is known that the three kingdoms -- Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Morocco -- also are inclined to support it.

King Husayn of Jordan, who heads an Arab League delegation to the five permanent member states of the Security Council, will today, in his confidential talk with French President Francois Mitterrand, disclose his real position on the Reagan plan. While Husayn is dining at the French president's table in the Elysee Palace, the other Arab League delegation members will be dining at the table of French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, who will return to Paris directly from Leonid Brezhnev's funeral. Attempts are also being made to settle the disagreements between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat before the deliberations of the PLO steering committee in Damascus, with the aim of formulating a united stand on the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon and the Palestinians' incorporation into the peace process.

Ever since the terrorists were evacuated from Beirut, there has been great tension in the personal relations between Al-Asad and 'Arafat. After his departure from Beirut, 'Arafat went to Athens and afterward he established his headquarters in Tunis. On his arrival in Damascus, the day after the Fes conference, he refused to meet with the Syrian president. The personal intervention of Khalid al-Fahum, the chairman of the Palestine National Council, and of Muhammad Khalifah, the representative of the pro-Syrian As-Sa'iqah organization on the PLO steering committee, was needed to arrange a "courtesy meeting" between Al-Asad and 'Arafat, on the specific condition that the disputed problems would not be discussed at that meeting. Damascus' reservations about 'Arafat's agreement to the confederation plan between Jordan and the West Bank did not ease the tension in the relations between the two.

The necessity to formulate a joint Syrian-Palestinian position on the continued IDF presence in Lebanon prompted a certain sobering in both camps -- four terrorist leaders, particularly, are making a superhuman effort to mediate between Al-Asad and 'Arafat (George Habash, the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Nayif Hawatimah a leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, one of 'Arafat's most loyal aides; Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu al-Lutuf, head of the PLO's Political Department.

As a result of these mediation attempts, the PLO repeated its announcement that its status in Lebanon was not the same as that of Syria and Israel; a Palestinian spokesman explained that the PLO presence in Lebanon was by virtue of an agreement with the Beirut government, and that after the massacre in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, the PLO could not abandon the Palestinians and its forces would have to continue to defend the refugee camps.

If this declaration indicated anything, it is the Palestinian intention to turn Lebanon into a sort of "Vietnam for Israel" and, for this purpose, to keep the IDF tied down in that country. In its confidence that the IDF will refuse to evacuate its forces from Lebanon before all the Palestinian terrorists are evacuated from there, the PLO is following a policy the purpose of which is to prolong the Israeli presence in Lebanon for as long as possible. Israel has no interest in playing this Palestinian game and wearing out its forces in an adventure which was purposeless from the beginning.

All through the war in Lebanon, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has shown a lack of understanding of the ambivalence of the variegated aspects of the Middle East and lack of knowledge of the intersectarian complications and power maneuvers in Beirut. His latest statements indicate that even today his considerations are being made in error. The Lebanese prime minister's call for an immediate evacuation of the IDF created a fitting opportunity for a partial response to it in order to at once deploy in the expanded security belt as required to defend the Galilee settlements. Any presence beyond that belt does not serve Israel's goals.

HABIB TO PROMOTE REAGAN PLAN AMONG W. BANK MAYORS

TA161748 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] U.S. envoy Philip Habib will arrive in Beirut on 18 November for a new shuttle mission in the region, and our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne's reports that this time he will also deal with matters connected with the Reagan plan. During his visit, Habib will meet with mayors in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip to try to convince them to accept the ideas in the Reagan plan.

VILLAGE LEAGUES' DUDIN TO VISIT UNITED STATES

TA170535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The head of the village leagues, Mustafa Dudin, will visit the United States next month at the invitation of the U.S. administration. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that the administration invited Dudin because he expressed full support for the Reagan plan. Dudin will appear before a congressional subcommittee in Washington.

NAHAL HAS 23 NEW PRESETTLEMENTS IN TERRITORIES

TA161532 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Today Nahal has 23 new presettlements [ma'ahaz] and settlements [he'ahzut], 15 of which are in Judaea, Samaria or the Gaza Strip. The head of the youth branch and Nahal in the Defense Ministry, Levi Mann, told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal that the location of the presettlements and settlements is determined by the political echelon and has no connection with the ideologies of the settlement movements. The Nahal commander, Brig Gen Manon Eshkol, said that the Nahal soldiers stay in the settlements and presettlements during their military service only, and that afterwards they can choose to stay any place they like.

REPORT ON NEW WEST BANK DIRECTIVES DENIED

TA161751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The policy directives for Judaea and Samaria published this morning in HA'ARETZ in the name of the deputy civilian administration head, Col Yig'al Karmon, were not approved by the coordinator of activities in the territories, nor were they approved by the defense minister. Therefore, they have no force. This has been learned by our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria Pinhas 'Inbari.

The HA'ARETZ report was based on a discussion held a few weeks ago in which ideas were aired and exchanged on various matters, including the directives cited in the report. The report spoke of a directive to district governors in Judaea and Samaria to neutralize to the maximum those who sympathize with Jordan and to make them greatly dependent on the administration. It was also decided, according to the report, to continue to struggle against radical elements.

Our correspondent notes that after Menahem Milson's resignation as head of the civilian administration, efforts have begun to find a replacement for him. Today, there are three candidates for the position, all of them senior army officers.

SHAMIR WANTS NORMAL RELATIONS WITH SOVIET UNION

TA170719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0515 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Israel wants normal political relations with the Soviet Union, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told our correspondent Freddy Eytan last night. Our correspondent met the minister after a speech he gave to the United Jewish Appeal delegation from France, and asked him about the veracity of the report about Israeli feelers for rapprochement with the Soviet Union following the election of Yuriy Andropov.

[Begin Shamir recording] We are always alert to all events in the Soviet Union. As is known, we are chiefly interested in the fate of Jews in the Soviet Union. There are more than 2 million Jews there. To the extent possible, we want to maintain normal relations with the Soviet Union, and we will seize every opportunity to achieve this objective. [end recording]

FRENCH PREMIER TO VISIT SUMMER OF NEXT YEAR

TA161159 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1145 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] French Premier Pierre Mauroy will visit Israel this coming summer. This was agreed at a meeting Mauroy held with Sefad Mayor MK Aharon Nahmias, who visited France last week. Mauroy, we should point out, is also the mayor of Lille. He is to come to Israel in order to sign a sister-city pact between Sefad and his city. The date of his visit will be set after the municipal elections in France in March 1983.

In accordance with a request by the Israeli Embassy, Nahmias appealed to Mauroy with a request to convene the joint Israeli-French committee for cultural affairs. As will be recalled, France canceled the convening of that committee in the wake of the Peace for Galilee campaign. Nahmias also asked for Mauroy and President Mitterrand to refrain from a meeting with Yasir 'Arafat, who is due to visit Paris at the end of next year [as heard]. Mauroy promised that there would be no such meeting unless the PLO fulfilled several conditions set by France, including, among others, recognition of Israel.

KOHL PLEDGES TO STRENGTHEN BILATERAL TIES

TA170749 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has promised that he will work to strengthen ties between his country and Israel. Speaking at a meeting with Jewish leaders in New York, Kohl said that when he was in the opposition, he was sympathetic to Israel and supported strengthening ties with it and with the Jewish people. He said: I do not mean to deny my views, and I will even visit Israel.

The West German chancellor stated that the Israeli prime minister's harsh remarks about his predecessor, Helmut Schmidt, strained bilateral relations. However, he said that he hopes that the dispute has become a thing of the past. He himself does not intend to judge Menahem Begin's statements, because he did not suffer as he did at the hands of the Nazis.

Kohl said that his government would not recognize the PLO and that no representative of the German Government would meet with even one of the organization's representatives before it alters its attitude toward Israel.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL TESTIFIES AT INQUIRY

TA170824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] This morning, the deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry, Hanan Bar-on, testified before the commission of inquiry investigating the Beirut massacre. Bar-on said that he first learned that the Phalangists were fighting in West Beirut on Thursday in a talk with several officers.

He also said that on Friday, the U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires telephoned him and asked him several questions, the main one being about the IDF's entry into Banks Street in Beirut. He also mentioned with reservation, rumors that IDF soldiers had entered hospitals and arrested patients and that the Phalangists had entered the refugee camps. Bar-on passed the information on to the prime minister's military secretary. He also tried, in vain, to contact the defense minister's adjutant and the Foreign Ministry director general.

Bar-on at first testified in an open session, but after about 15 minutes, the commission members decided to continue his testimony in camera.

In about an hour, the commander of the militias in southern Lebanon, Maj Sa'd Haddad, will testify before the commission. We received this report from our correspondent Ehud Klausner.

POLL SHOWS DECLINE IN SHARON'S POPULARITY

TA160715 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Nov 82 pp 1, 10

[Report by Mark Segal]

[Excerpt] The decline in the popularity of Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon since the Beirut massacre is the most noticeable feature of THE JERUSALEM POST's latest survey of the public standing of the country's politicians.

The only parallel to a defence minister's plunge in public favour following a war is that of the fall of the late Moshe Dayan after the Yom Kippur war in 1973.

Premier Menahem Begin seems to be recovering in popularity, while President Yitzhaq Navon is soaring upwards in the choice for premier, with both Labour rivals - Yitzhaq Rabin and Shim'on Peres - runners-up. 'Ezer Weizman's gradual comeback in public favour is also noticeable.

The above data emerged from THE POST's poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute in the last week of October and the first week of November, among a representative sample of 1,255 adults. It should be noted that two comparative polls were held in September, one among 628 adults before the Rosh Hoshana weekend and the second among 637 adults after the massacre.

Q: "Who is best suited to be prime minister?"

	Oct.	Sept. Post massacre	Sept. Pre massacre	August
Menahem Begin	44.8	42.9	49.8	54.0
Yitzhaq Navon	18.4	14.1	10.8	4.4
Yitzhaq Rabin	11.1	11.9	10.4	14.2
Shim'on Peres	3.3	4.7	4.0	3.4
'Ezer Weizman	2.3	1.6	0.2	1.5
Ari'el Sharon	0.8	1.7	1.8	1.1
Others	2.3	1.7	2.3	2.6
Undecided	17.0	21.4	20.7	18.8

Institute Director Dr Sara Shemer said that while Begin's popularity had slumped by 10 percent since August, he seemed to be recovering in comparison to his post-massacre standing.

Q: "Who is best suited to be defense minister?"

	Oct.	Sept. Post massacre	Sept. Pre massacre	August
Sharon	37.5	42.4	49.0	51.8
Weizman	12.9	8.8	7.0	6.7
Rabin	7.9	8.9	5.9	5.2
Peres	2.5	2.2	2.7	-
Hayim Bar-Lev	2.1	3.0	3.7	3.2
Refa'el Eytan	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.0
Mordekhay Gur	1.0	1.4	0.8	1.8
Others	1.8	1.4	1.6	3.4
Undecided	32.2	30.5	28.0	26.9

BRIEFS

LIVING STANDARD INCREASE -- The standard of living in Israel has gone up this year by 5 percent. Purchases of cars increased by one-third, and durables as a whole by 18 percent. On the other hand, clothing and footwear purchases fell by 5 percent. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Nov 82 TA]

CHAD REPRESENTATION STALLS OAU CONFERENCE

NC161416 Paris AFP in English 1406 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, Nov 16 (AFP) -- The Organisation of African Unity ministerial conference was stalled today as a dispute developed over which of two Chadian delegations should be represented.

Instead of hearing a report covering four years of OAU activities by outgoing Secretary-General Edem Kodjo as scheduled, delegates wrangled over Chad.

A delegation representing President Hissein Habre's Ndjamena government is claiming Chad's seat, but so is the rival government of former leader Goukouni Queddei, installed by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Bardai, northern Chad, at the end of last month.

Conference sources said the morning session was spent in debate on whether or not to appoint a credentials committee to resolve the issue.

Ivory Coast, said to be supported by several countries, reportedly threatened to leave the conference if Hissein Habre's delegation, headed by presidential advisor Allammi Ahmed, were not given the seat at the end of the deliberations.

The debate was expected to continue later today.

Countries supporting General Goukouni, headed by Libya, argue the Bardai government has a case since it is the direct descendant of the transitional government (GUNT) given full support by the Nairobi OAU summit of 1981.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the conference host who becomes chairman of the OAU at next week's summit, in his opening speech last night attacked Zaire for renewing diplomatic ties with Israel, and accused the United States "with their allies in the region, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Sudan", of pressuring African states into boycotting the summit.

Egypt, Somalia and Sudan -- who all dispute Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's fitness to be OAU chairman -- are not represented here.

The Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, declared by Polisario guerrillas in the Western Sahara, has also kept is promise to stay away to enable the summit to open. The SADR's presence at the August OAU conference caused a boycott by some African leaders and the meeting was postponed for lack of a quorum.

TEXT OF AL-QADHDHAFI SPEECH TO OAU SESSION

LD161510 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 0035 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's speech at the opening of the 39th OAU foreign ministers session in Tripoli on 15 November -- recorded]

[Text] I have the pleasure, OAU foreign minister, to greet you this evening and to attend the opening meeting of your 39th session, which is to pave the way for the OAU's 19th summit session. [passage indistinct] I have come today to greet you and to bless your meeting. It might be appropriate for me to express to you some of my thoughts about the expected summit conference for which you are now preparing; I wish to make these remarks in view of the confidence I have just spoken to you about. [passage indistinct]

I am confident that the foreign ministers of developing countries, which include our African countries, are the ones who pave the way in international politics before their countries' heads of states. Indeed foreign ministers are quite often more effective than their heads of states; this is a fact I can personally attest to and there can be no disputing this. In view of this important position you hold, I will put to you a number of points. Though I am not fully aware of the topics on your agenda, there is no harm in my putting before you these thoughts on issues that they may be tackled at the summit conference. What I am going to say to you is even more important than what I will be saying at the summit conference, which will only be a confirmation of these points.

First, I must say that the OAU has been in existence for a considerable time, but it has brought about no positive worthwhile results serving the good of the African peoples. All we have after all these years is a form of African unity that is void of all content. However, I will do my best to ensure that the 19th OAU summit conference will be the start of a change from the organization's traditional work and a turning point in the positive action [words indistinct] for the good of the African peoples.

Most of the topics tackled by the OAU, either on the ministerial or summit levels, are issues of political importance, yet the African citizen pays no attention to them. The overwhelming majority of African citizens (?are not interested) in the OAU's work because they do not understand anything; the case of the EEC is different, since it concerns every citizen in Europe, peasants and workers, because it tackles issues which affect people's lives.

As I have said, it is the African citizens' right to see the OAU tackle issues [words indistinct]. If a meeting of the EEC were to be disrupted for example, this would bring a reaction from all the citizens of EEC member countries. But in our case, the 19th summit conference was disrupted last August and this caused no reaction from African citizens, who did not care whether the conference took place or not. [Words indistinct]

The political stands of various African countries differ from each other, because of differences in political outlook and political lines. It is difficult for us to take one political stand for the continent. For example, we strongly oppose the meeting of French-speaking African countries under French leadership. From our point of view, this is a disgrace to these independent countries, an insult to the honorable brother Africans who head these states and a continuation of French colonialism in a new form. This is a clear act of subservience which nobody can deny, so much so that this annual meeting of French-speaking African countries and France constitutes a contradiction to these countries' policies and independence, turning them into French colonies.

At the forthcoming summit conference, we shall strongly ask these heads of French-speaking African countries to abolish this disgraceful tradition from the African Continent, this French colonialist domination of its old colonies. I would never let Italy speak on behalf of Libya and claim any obligation toward Libya because it used to colonize Libya; this is a disgrace of which I would not approve. I would force it to stop talking and make it understand that it has no obligation toward Libya.

Italy is a colonialist power with a filthy past in our country, and we remember nothing but calamities from that period. We are still asking it to pay reparations for the losses it caused our country. The traces of colonialism are still hanging on it. We are still (?chasing) it.

In 1970, we evicted 20,000 Italians who had colonized Libya and who believed they belonged to the first class and the Libyans belonged to the second class -- Libyans were treated so in their own country. [words indistinct] their property was confiscated. Their property belonged to the people, but they had unjustly usurped it from the Libyan people. Farms, estates and factories, even private cars all became Libyans' property; we did not allow them to take anything except their luggage. In one month, we expelled 20,000. Any country that used to colonize another and claims that it has an obligation toward that country, would be committing an act of imperialist encroachment and insolence.

This is just one example. We will insist on placing this question on the agenda of the African summit conference, whether we reach agreement or not. We do not want agreement only; we want to agree on something that would strengthen the independence of the continent, bolster its freedom and dignity, protect the African inside and outside the continent and restore his dignity. We want to restore dignity to the African who suffers oppression and indignity in Britain, Europe and the United States. We must bolster the dignity of the African countries inside the African Continent and not let an imperialist European country dominate it under the guise of cooperation or under any other guise. Now that there is cooperation between France and the African countries, there is a continuation of exploitation, robbery and insult.

This is one of the points I insist on including on the agenda, for even if we differ on it and do not achieve anything, it does not matter. I do not want us to reach agreement for the sake of reaching agreement only. I cannot rely on agreements that overlook basic issues affecting the sovereignty and dignity of the African Continent and its political and economic freedom.

There is an example of the differences in the stands of the African countries. There is one African country that has restored relations with the Zionist-racist country at a time when all African countries are boycotting the racist countries in South Africa, and Palestine. This is another example of the differences over political stands. In fact, the united position against racist Zionism and white racism in South Africa represents the minimum degree of African unity from a political point of view; this is a principled position.

I am not happy to see a country joining us just to attain a quorum. I do not care about attaining a quorum while African solidarity and unity are being violated and Zionism, racism and imperialism are being bolstered. [Words indistinct] and our unity appear to be serving the enemies -- racists, imperialists and exploiters who scorn the black race and consider Africa a plantation for them and a mine for their factories. How can we pursue unity with a country that recognizes Israel? It is our duty as Africans to bolster the struggle of the Arab inhabitants of Palestine and not to recognize their enemy, as we now stand by the frontline states in southern Africa in order to liberate them from apartheid -- as Zimbabwe was liberated from the State of Israel that was Rhodesia and as will the Republic of South Africa. We do not recognize these imperialist names; we only recognize Palestine, Zimbabwe and Azania.

But an African state has recognized our bitter Zionist-racist enemy who works to [word indistinct] what sort of unity is this? I am not happy about such a unity at all. Zionism wants to divide us, tries to entice some of us and woos them with false promises so that it may divide us and create problems among us as is now the case.

I am saying that political stands sometimes seem even conflicting, but at least in this 19th session, [words indistinct] although it is difficult to immunize social and economic issues ultimately from political influences. But we shall try to do so sincerely [word indistinct] socially and economically thereby guaranteeing the minimum degree of African unity and consequently giving some content to the formal framework of unity.

The question of economic cooperation among African countries, between the rich and poor countries, is a very important question. The whole world is working on such cooperation. Even North-South dialogue is based on this line: the industrially advanced and economically strong countries trying to help the poor countries of the South.

But this dialogue, as the whole world has witnessed, has now failed because one of the two parties to the dialogue included the colonialist, exploitative and greedy countries which are hostile to the poor countries and want to exploit them. So, the trend now is toward having a South-South dialogue [words indistinct]. Rather there should be an African-African dialogue, the objective of which should be economic cooperation between the poor and rich countries. [passage indistinct]

Health statistics show that there are serious problems that need earnest work in order to be overcome. [Words indistinct] to use them to improve the life of the African citizen and (?give them) dignity. Therefore, there is a need to establish an African health organization as it has been proved that WHO offers little to Africa. The experiments and the attempts we carried out in this field as Africans [words indistinct]. Concerning the African health organization, we should as Africans shoulder its responsibilities; the rich countries must shoulder the responsibility of establishing it and financing it. If the poor countries shy away from approving this project, the rich African countries must shoulder the expenses of the establishment of an African health organization. Thus we would succeed in laying down a development program for the whole African Continent. [passage indistinct]

In the political sphere, in confirmation of what I (?previously) said regarding African positions, you must look into the establishment of an African court of justice to deal with resolving African disputes. This does not contradict the existence of the International Court of Justice. [passage indistinct] a dispute between an African state and a non-African state should be referred to the International Court of Justice, but in case of a dispute between one African state and another, it is preferable to deal with it in the African court of justice. [passage indistinct]

Under the UN Charter (?provisions), four or five countries have a right to object to the will of the United Nations through the veto right, and to maintain permanent seats on the Security Council. These four of five states [words indistinct] we must stop this at the Security Council -- that is when a state mad with the arrogance of power and barbarism like the United States objects to the will of 150 nations. The U.S. delegate objects to the will of 150 nations. He permits aggression and mass killing of Palestinians in Lebanon because the United States so desires. Its desire is to see the world destroyed in conflagration with the peoples killed. [Word indistinct] the peoples' blood; the blood of the Vietnamese people and the blood of the Palestinian, Lebanese and Arab peoples as well as the African people's blood in Namibia, Angola and Mozambique. Its desire is to [words indistinct]; it used the veto.

We were in one organization which worked for strengthening our sovereignty, countering colonialism and securing our freedom. We must act collectively at the United Nations and unanimously decide on the veto right. We must ask all Security Council members to annul the right of veto so that there will be no right of veto. No UN Security Council resolution has any value now if it was objected to by a state [words indistinct]. I (?do not) speak on behalf of this organization [words indistinct]. This means that we allow unity, and this unity will be superficial, untrue and deceitful. [Words indistinct] it is within the scope of this organization to destroy such positions. [words indistinct] if there was an obstacle to the progress of the continent. [passage indistinct]

This aggressive act and vile interference by America and by U.S. agents too [word indistinct] which is now under U.S. and Zionist control. [Word indistinct] U.S. agents in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Saudi Arabia. [passage indistinct]

I bless this meeting and salute [word indistinct] the points that concern me which I will mention later at the summit. [Words indistinct] to repeat them and stress them before the heads of state. God bless you and peace be upon you.

OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RESUME MEETINGS

LD161656 Tripoli JANA in English 1619 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 30, Nov 16, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- The O.A.U. ministerial council resumed its meetings here today under the chairmanship of the secretary of the People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, 'Abd al-Ati al-'Ubaydi. At the beginning of today's meeting, part of the 39th session, Congo was chosen as the second chairman while Djibouti was chosen as secretary to the session.

ALGERIA

FUNDAMENTALISTS DEMONSTRATE AT UNIVERSITY

PM170917 Paris LE MONDE in French 14-15 Nov 82 p 20

[" J. de L.G." dispatch: "Several Thousand Fundamentalists Demonstrate on University Campus"]

[Text] Algiers -- Several thousand fundamentalists took part Friday, 12 November, in a rally in downtown Algiers, presented as a warning to the authorities. The latter had announced 2 days earlier that they were handing over to the public prosecutors office 29 people involved in a clash between rival student groups at the Ben-Aknoun University campus 2 November, in the course of which a young man was killed. This brawl was between Muslim brothers and secularizing and progressive elements, who are usually Kabyles. Since the victim belonged this time to the latter group (a Muslim brother was killed under similar circumstances at Bab-Ozzouar University at the beginning of the year), the authorities cracked down especially on the religious fundamentalists, who greatly outnumber their opponents among the 29 people arrested.

To protest these arrests a Friday prayer meeting was organized in the courtyard of the capital's central faculty. About 5,000 people gathered on the university campus. Those unable to enter waited in the vicinity and their ranks were swelled by many passersby and onlookers. The voices of the speakers were relayed outside by a loudspeaker. For instance, one heard: "The prisons are not made for Muslims; they are made for criminals."

Beginning at about 1130, the demonstration ended about 3 hours later. It dispersed without incident before an impressive police deployment, which did not have to intervene.

U.S.-MOROCCAN MILITARY EXERCISES ASSAILED

PM160941 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 9 Nov 82 p 1

[E.M. commentary: "Act of Provocation"]

[Text] The U.S.-Moroccan military maneuvers due to start tomorrow have a multiple significance. First, the location for these maneuvers, which is northeast of Algeria, in the Mediterranean. Second, the moment chosen. This poses two equally important issues to which Algeria cannot remain indifferent. First, it is Algeria's principle to condemn the aggressive nature of all such operations, wherever they take place. Now, since it is taking place on its borders and near its coastline, this condemnation assumes a special dimension. Moreover, the date chosen for these operations raises several questions.

Is it to be regarded as a premeditated act of intimidation? Is this act to be interpreted as an operation designed to free Morocco from any imaginary danger, since it already enjoys the broad umbrella of protection by NATO? Are we to attach to it the significance of a politicomilitary demarch conducted against a region -- the Mediterranean -- or against several countries, particularly European countries, experiencing an upsurge of democracy and of rejection of all forms of imperialism? Last, as preparations are underway for the 19th African summit, should it be regarded as a barely disguised threat to the group of African leaders anxious to impart to our continental organization, the OAU, a new thrust marked by a more acute awareness of its international responsibilities and by a more effective role within the world community?

However, if tension survives in the region, it is because for many years a people have been denied freedom and independence, despite the relevant UN resolutions and the no less important resolutions of the African community, and even despite the wise decisions taken at Nairobi, whose implementation is being hindered by Morocco's very regrettable obstinacy.

But perhaps it is precisely an act of encouragement to give that obstinate state more confidence to perpetuate tension in the region;

What must be regarded as the most flagrant, glaring and deplorable aspect is the fact that these maneuvers are being organized by a major power belonging to the Security Council, specifically responsible for supervising international security.

The contempt thus displayed for peoples' independence and states' sovereignty is equaled only by the arrogance of a policy that has become traditional and whose belligerent nature in opposition to international morality we have had to condemn on several occasions. The responsibility of the United States and Morocco has thus been established.

Algeria, which has always worked, in line with its ideals and as a Mediterranean and nonaligned country, toward the Mediterranean's becoming a sea of peace, security and cooperation, stresses the gravity of this action, which is taking place on its coastal border and constitutes a dangerous threat to the security of all the region's peoples.

MAURITANIA

FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER LEAVES 17 NOV

AB170806 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Jean-Christophe Mitterrand, assistant presidential adviser on African affairs of the French Republic, left yesterday afternoon. During his stay, he was received by the president and the prime minister. He also held working sessions with several members of the government.

Commenting on his talks with the Mauritanian leaders and officials, the French adviser said he was very satisfied. "We made a comprehensive review of bilateral questions and current international problems," he said. Mr Mitterrand stressed that all cooperation matters were considered in depth during his talks, "and I can positively state," he concluded, "that our relations are excellent."

MOROCCO

OAU CONFERENCE, LIBYA-CHAD DIFFERENCES VIEWED

LD162204 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The OAU ministerial council continued its work in Tripoli today within the framework of preparing for the African summit scheduled for 23-26 November.

The opening session yesterday was chaired by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The press and guest-members of the diplomatic corps were not allowed to attend the session, which was held behind closed doors. Observers note with interest that this was the first time in the history of OAU conferences -- whether on the foreign ministers or summit level -- that the ministerial council convened with a closed session. The decision raised a number of questions about the true meaning of turning the opening session into a closed session, particularly since Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's speech at this session did not remain a secret document. Libyan information media rushed to publish and broadcast it.

According to news agencies, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's speech has caused confusion and anxiety and has raised questions among the African delegations present in the Libyan capital. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi attacked the African states that took part in the African-French summit conference in Kinshasa, particularly since this conference gathered more than 40 African states at a time when the African summit conference failed to meet last August in Tripoli because of the lack of a quorum.

African delegations considered Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's attack and his criticisms as interference in the internal affairs of African states. The colonel also called for revision of the charters of all international organizations. In this connection, news agencies underlined the attitude he expressed toward the OAU Charter, particularly the articles connected with borders inherited from colonialism. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi criticized the articles of the OAU Charter that guarantee to encroach on the inviolability of the borders inherited from the colonialist era, and called for the setting up of an African court of justice to settle disputes between African states over the artificial borders drawn up by colonialism, which are the (?subject) of battles between fraternal states.

Meanwhile, the African delegations present in Tripoli consider the attempts to refuse the lawful delegation representing the Republic of Chad as interference in the affairs of Chad. Observers recall that the ministerial meeting in Ndjamena under the chairmanship of Hissein Habre in fact formed the official delegation to the preparatory meeting of African foriegn ministers. The representative of President Habre, who is currently in Libya, said that any discussion about who represents Chad at the conference is unacceptable and unreasonable.

This statement came in reply to attempts being made to set up a subcommittee to discuss the Republic of Chad's representation following the appearance in Tripoli of a delegation representing former President Goukouni Oueddei, who recently set up a government-in-exile. AFP noted in this connection that the problem of Chad's representation has dominated the work of the second day of the conference, and that representatives of the states which attended the French-African summit in Kinshasa have declared their determination not to concede and to adhere to the stance taken by their leaders in the capital of Zaire — the stance of recognition and solidarity with the government of President Hissein Habre.

It was learned from Tripoli a short while ago that the African states that were present in Kinshasa have threatened to withdraw from the conference if acceptance of the lawful and representative delegation of the Republic of Chad is refused. Chadian Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine said that Chad, one of the founders of the OAU, is determined to take its rightful seat at the African summit and that Libya alone bears responsibility for any decision taken against his delegation. The Chadian foreign minister declared that his delegation will place before the foreign ministers conference the problem of Libya's occupation of northern Chad — an area of 150,000 square km -- and that his country does not rule out the possibility of settling the Libya-Chad difference through dialogue.

TUNISIA

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON NIGER PRESIDENT'S VISIT

PM161249 Tunis L'ACTION in French 8 Nov 82 p 6

["Text" of joint communique issued following the visit by Niger President Seyni Kountche]

[Text] Following Niger President Seyni Kountche's visit to Tunisia the following communique was issued:

At the invitation of His Excellency Habib Bourguiba, president of the Tunisian Republic, His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council and Niger chief of state, made a friendly working visit from 5 to 6 November 1982 at the head of a large delegation.

That visit gave the heads of state a special opportunity to reiterate their mutual respect and their traditional friendship in a fraternal atmosphere.

The Niger chief of state had important talks with the president of the Tunisian Republic on the development of bilateral relations between the two countries and on problems in the current African and international situation. In addition, he had lengthy talks with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali.

In addition his excellency the Niger chief of state visited various economic and tourist installations in the Kairouan and Monastir regions and was able to note the considerable progress achieved in various spheres and expressed his admiration for the installations visited and the economic and social progress achieved by Tunisia.

A working session between the Tunisian and Niger delegations gave the two sides the opportunity to make a detailed analysis of bilateral relations between Tunisia and Niger and the prospects for strengthening them. The two sides noted with satisfaction the excellent ties of solidarity which bind Tunisia and Niger and expressed their common will to make every effort to improve and strengthen their cooperation in all spheres.

Examining the situation in the world, the two sides noted a broad similarity in their approaches to both African and international problems and convergence in their analyses of all the questions discussed.

They took this opportunity to reaffirm the need for all states to uphold and ensure respect for the principles and objectives of the OAU and UN Charters, especially noninterference in the internal affairs of states, peoples' right to self-determination, respect for states' territorial integrity and the establishment among countries of relations of friendship and cooperation based on dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding.

Turning to the examination of the situation in Africa, the two sides expressed their deep concern over the crisis in the OAU. They expressed the view that the continuation of that crisis is jeopardizing cohesion in African ranks, affecting inter-African solidarity and curbing Africa's development toward prosperity and greater well-being for the African man.

In this connection they reaffirmed their full readiness to take and support any action likely to ensure the survival and smooth running of the pan-African organization, while respecting the principles in the OAU Charter.

With regard to the situation in southern Africa, the two sides strongly condemned the racist Pretoria regime's inflexibility and condemned its policy of aggression against the fraternal frontline countries and its illegal occupation of Namibia. They took the opportunity to stress the need to urgently implement the UN plan on Namibian independence and reiterated their full support for SWAPO, the Namibian people's sole authentic representative.

Turning to the situation in the Middle East, the two sides expressed their deep concern at the systematic policy of expansion and aggression which Israel is pursuing in the region. They strongly condemned the invasion of Lebanon and condemned the massacre and acts of genocide perpetrated thanks to that invasion. They expressed their active solidarity with Lebanon with a view to safeguarding its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The two sides reiterated their firm conviction that that region can only enjoy peace and stability through the implementation fo the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and the creation of a free and independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole authentic representative and Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem.

The two sides discussed Arab-African cooperation and reiterated their desire to make every effort to ensure the development and success of that vast cultural enterprise, which is a preferred tool in rapprochement and understanding among the Arab and African peoples. In addition the two sides stressed the need for the Arabs and Africans to maintain their cohesion and increase their solidarity, urging them to show vigilance in order to thwart the attempts at division whose objective is to break the traditional unity among Arabs and Africans and seriously undermine the strengthening of Arab-African dialogue.

With regard to bilateral relations the two sides agreed in particular on methods likely to increase trade, cooperation in the economic and financial sphere and in the sphere of tourism and the hotel trade. They expressed the desire to impart to Tunisian-Niger cooperation the exemplary character their political relations have. To that end they paid particular attention to the problem of air and surface transport between the two countries and agreed in principle to exchange delegations of experts in the areas identified.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the atmosphere of perfect cordiality and fraternal understanding which prevailed during their talks. They signed an agreement setting up the Tunisian-Niger grand joint commission.

The Tunisian delegation paid tribute to the economic and social development efforts tirelessly made by the sister Republic of Niger under the great guidance of His Excellency President Kountche and expressed its complete readiness to place Tunisia's experience at the service of strengthening cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

His excellency the Niger chief of state expressed his great satisfaction with the results of this visit, which is an important landmark in relations between the two fraternal countries, making it possible to further strengthen the strong fraternal ties which already bind the Republic of Niger and the Republic of Tunisia.

His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche was anxious to express to His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba his great sorrow and deep sympathy and the Nigerois people's solidarity in face of Tunisia's difficulties following the floods which have occured in some regions of the country.

On his own behalf and on behalf of the delegation accompanying him, he thanked President Habib Bourguiba, president of the Republic of Tunisia, the Tunisian Government and the entire Tunisian people for the warm and fraternal welcome and attentive hospitality shown to him throughout his visit to Tunisia.

His Excellency Colonel Kountche invited His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba to make an official visit to Niger. That invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date of that visit will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

WESTERN SAHARA

SAHARAN DEFENSE MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN CUBA

For Havana media coverage of the visit to Cuba of SDAR Defense Minister Brahim Ghali, including reports on his talks with Revolutionary Armed Forces Minister Raul Castro, see the Cuba section of the 16 November Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CHAD

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON TRIPOLI RECOGNITION

AB161716 Paris AFP in English 1645 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Ndjamena, Nov 16 (AFP) -- Chadian Foreign Minister Idriss Miskine left here today for Tripoli via Paris to take part in the preparatory meeting for next week's reconvened annual African summit conference.

Delegates already in the Libyan capital are now discussing who should represent Chad, where the government of President Goukouni Oueddei was ousted in June by forces commanded by Hissein Habre. Mr Habre has since been sworn in as head of state, while Mr Goukouni has established a base at Bardai, in the north, with help from Libya.

Mr Miskine, who represents Mr Habre, said that if his delegation was refused entry when it reached Tripoli it would have to accept the decision, which could only be taken by Libya not the OAU.

The Chadian minister also said that his delegation would use the conference as a platform to discuss Libya's presence in the Aouzou Strip, the mineral rich region in northern Chad which is claimed and occupied by Libya.

ZAIRE

COMMUNIQUE ON BELGIAN STATE SECRETARY'S VISIT

AB141835 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1635 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Communique issued in Kinshasa on 15 November at the end of Belgian Secretary of State for Development Cooperation Jacqueline Mayence-Goossens' 5-day official visit to Zaire]

[Text] Kinshasa, 16 Nov (AZAP) -- At the invitation of the Zairian Executive Council, Mrs Jacqueline Mayence-Goossens, Belgian secretary of state for development cooperation, paid an official visit to the Republic of Zaire from 10 to 15 November 1982.

While in Zaire, the Belgian secretary of state was received in audience by Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, MPR founding chairman and president of the republic, with whom she discussed matters related to bilateral cooperation. The talks were held in an atmosphere of frankness and mutual understanding.

The Belgian secretary of state was also received by [words indistinct], as well as by the secretary of state for international cooperation; the state commissioner for agriculture, rural development and environment; the state commissioner for finance and budget; the state commissioner for national economy, industry and foreign trade; the state commissioner for primary and secondary education; the state commissioner for public health and social welfare and the state commissioner for transport and communications.

At a dinner hosted by the secretary general for women's affairs, the Belgian secretary of state met with Zairian women and showed interest in their problems.

Along with members of her delegation, she inspected some projects sponsored by Belgium in Kinshasa, Kolwezi and Lubumbashi. They include in particular the national institute for the blind, the Mama Yemo hospital, the Kinshasa and Lubumbashi Universities, the Bondeko deaf and dumb center at Binza, the Tobongisa secondary school at Ngaliema and the Kikimi primary health care hospital.

She also visited the schools offering the Belgian curriculum both in Kinshasa and Lubumbashi.

On the occasion of her visit to Zaire, Mrs Mayence-Goossens and Citizen Lengema Dulia Yubassa Makanga, Zairian secretary of state for international cooperation, signed the agreement between Zaire and Belgium on the project known as the "organization of primary health services in the city of Kinshasa", the second additional agreement to the general agreement on the "transfer of funds from Belgium" signed on 21 January 1981 between Belgium and Zaire.

At the request of the Zairian Executive Council, the Belgian Government has put at the disposal of the Mama Yemo hospital Dr Jansegers, who will serve as chief medical officer there.

The Executive Council and the Belgian Government thanked Dr Ruppol, who took charge of this hospital temporarily.

Dr Ruppol is continuing with his functions at the Department of Belgian Cooperation in Kinshasa.

The two delegations expressed satisfaction with the outcome of their disucssions and were convinced that such an exchange of views is necessary to strengthen Belgian-Zairian cooperation, solidarity and friendship in the interests of the two peoples.

Mrs J. Mayence-Goossens, Belgian secretary of state for development cooperation, expressed her sincere thanks to Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, MPR founding chairman and president of the Republic of Zaire, to the Executive Council and the entire Zairian people for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded her and the official delegation accompanying her.

[Issued in] Kinshasa, 15 November 1982

GHANA

ASAMOAH PRAISES HOLDING OF TRIPOLI MEETING

AB162126 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, said today that the successful reconvening of the OAU summit in Tripoli, Libya, is a slap in the face of the external forces who are working hard [words indistinct]. He noted that the achievement of a quorum at the ministerial conference which opened yesterday is the realization of a desire of Africans to unite and forge ahead in finding solutions to their problems. He therefore congratulated the five-nation committee charged with the responsibility of reconvening the meeting.

Dr Asamoah was speaking to newsmen at Kotoka International Airport shortly before he flew to Tripoli at the head of a five-man Ghana delegation to the ministerial conference. On the question of Cuban forces from Angola as a condition for Namibia's independence, Dr Asamoah [words indistinct], is forcibly contrary to world opinion occupied by apartheid South Africa. There should be no link between the two issues, he emphasized. He described yesterday's proposal made at the conference by the Libyan leader, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, calling for an all-African court of justice as a laudable idea. He was confident the conference would enforce the rededication of the member states to the objectives of the OAU.

NIGERIA

NIGERIAN TROOPS TO LEAVE LEBANON BY JANUARY 1983

AB161513 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The withdrawal of Nigerian soldiers serving in the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] has begun. The military attache of Nigeria's permanent mission to the United Nations, Lt Col Olayinka Sule, disclosed this in New York yesterday. He said as part of the withdrawal, the first batch of 200 Nigerian soldiers left Lebanon last week for home. He stated that the remaining 500 soldiers would return home at the expiration of their extended deadline of 19 January 1983.

According to Lt Colonel Sule, Nigeria would cease to be a member of the UNIFIL as from that date. Last week, Nigeria's permanent representative to the United Nations, Alhaji Yusuff Maitama-Sule, along with Lt Colonel Sule, informed the UN secretary general of Nigeria's decision to pull its troops out of the UNIFIL contingent. The contingent's commander, Col Sunday Adbjehu, will continue to pilot the affairs of the remaining Nigerian soldiers until they come home finally.

Nigeria became a participant in the UNIFIL in 1978.

BOTSWANA

MASIRE FEARS EFFECT OF REFUGEES ON COUNTRY

AB140738 Paris AFP in English 0721 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Gaborone, Botswana, Nov. 14 (AFP) -- Botswanan President Quett Masire, who begins a three-day official visit to France tomorrow, fears that his landlocked country on South Africa's border may become "the Lebanon of southern Africa."

Pleading for more international aid, he told AFP here that despite its meagre resources, Botswana was obliged under international law to continue taking in refugees on top of the 2,000 it already had, most of them from Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho and South Africa.

He expressed concern that some of the refugees were "highly infiltrated by agents of foreign powers" which he did not name, and were responsible for sabotage and other crimes among the country's one million population. Botswana was totally dependent economically on South Africa and had to conduct all its trade through that country, Mr Masire said, and his government could not allow Botswana to be used as a subversive base for attacks on its neighbours and expect to survive at the same time as an independent state.

Yet Botswana rejected "any idea" of diplomatic relations with Pretoria unless the white-minority regime there "totally abandoned" its racial segregation policies.

In the meantime, he said, as a member of the nine-nation Southern African Development Coordination Conference, also grouping Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Swaziland and Lesotho, Botswana would do its best to reduce, though not to terminate, economic relations with South Africa.

On Namibia, Mr Masire said he "totally rejected" the U.S. condition for Namibian independence of a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. "All the issues relating to the Namibian dispute have been resolved, even the voting system is no longer an issue. The negotiations are deadlocked by the introduction of extraneous matters not relevant to the Namibia issue. The question of Cuban presence in Angola is a matter for the Angolans and has nothing to do with Namibia."

Mr Masire said his visit to France, with which trade is small and which imports mostly animal skins in exchange for manufactured goods, had no specific agenda except to persuade France to give Botswana more aid generally. A cultural and technical aid agreement would probably be signed during the visit, he said.

MOZAMBIQUE

CHILEAN CAPTURED BY RESISTANCE REPORTED FREED

MB170716 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Chimoio -- The Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] has released the Chilean national, (Roberto Carril), who had been kidnapped by resistance forces in December last year in Chitengo. A communique issued by the Department of Defense of the MNR says that the release took place on 14 November in the border town of (Mushokwana), between Malawi and Mozambique, in an area near Zobue, Tete Province.

According to the same communique, (Roberto Carril) was in good health at the time of his release. [Words indistinct].

SOUTH AFRICA

IMPORTANCE OF UNITA SEEN IN PRISONER SWAP

MB170932 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Station commentary: "The UNITA Movement in Angola"]

[Text] The international exchange of prisoners in Lusaka has come after intense negotiations involving six countries, including South Africa. Apart from the six countries, the Angolan guerrilla movement, UNITA, played a decisive role in the negotiations. Thus it has shown that it cannot be ignored in negotiations involving future political developments in the region.

UNITA, one of the three movements which fought against the Portuguese before indepdence in 1975, had obtained backing from some Western and Western-leaning African states before the Portuguese revolution of 1974. In the 6 years since the Marxist MPLA came to power, UNITA has achieved recognition as a significant military and political factor in the Angolan situation. Foreign journalists and prisoners who have been released by UNITA on previous occasions say the movement has a large and well-equipped army that controls large parts of Angola south of the Benguella railway line, a huge area in which it has the support of the local population. Successive American administrations have consistently refused to recognize the MPLA government in Angola. On the other hand UNITA achieved some kind of breakthrough in the United States when UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi visited Washington last December.

A spokesman for the State Department said at the time that the Reagan administration viewed UNITA as a real and significant political factor in Angola that should be reckoned with in any political settlement. He said the United States hoped a settlement in South-West Africa could lead to an internal settlement in Angola in which UNITA would be involved. U.S. support for UNITA, coupled with an American demand for the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola as a condition for a settlement in South-West Africa, puts UNITA right in the center of efforts to bring peace and stability to the southern African region.

PIK BOTHA REACTS TO MUGABE'S ACCUSATION

MB170938 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, says South Africa is generally being held responsible for certain destabilizing factors that are at present in countries such as Zimbabwe. Mr Botha was commenting on a speech made yesterday by the Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Mugabe, when he welcomed the American vice president, Mr Bush, who is on a visit to Zimbabwe.

In his address, Mr Mugabe accused South Africa of destabilizing its black neighbouring states, oppressing its own people and failing to grant independence to South-West Africa.

Mr Botha said it was a fact that certain African states, including Zimbabwe, were faced with destabilizing and disrupting factors. The leaders of such countries themselves contributed to this by not giving enough attention to economic development, efficient administration, food production, education, transport systems and health services.

Comments on Bush Remarks

MB170755 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0600 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Mr Bush, the American vice president, says the United States wants an end to South African occupation of South-West Africa as well as an end to what he terms Angola's suffering and the dangerous situation inthe region. Speaking at a banquet in Harare at the conclusion of a half-hour meeting with Mr Mugabe, the Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Bush said the Untied States is committed to the search for constructive change in southern Africa, where there is a stark choice between strife and cooperation. His country's top stretegic objective in Africa is to discourage foreign intervention in regional conflicts and to encourage negotiated change.

In Pretoria, Mr Pik Botha, minister of foreign affairs and inforamtion, has said that Mr Bush's reported remarks do not tally with the spirit of cooperation between the two countries. He said he would discuss the matter with Dr Chester Crocker, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, later today. He added that it was a peculiar way of saying thank you for all the efforts South Africa has put into obtaining the release of the three American citizens from Angola. Mr Botha said he doubts whether Mr Bush has been quoted correctly, and he would prefer to study the text of his address first before giving any further comment.

ZAMBIA

SOUTH AFRICA-ANGOLA PRISONER EXCHANGE COMPLETED

MB170734 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Angola and South Africa have exchanged prisoners of war in Lusaka, involving 95 Angolans and 2 Soviets, who were swapped with 3 Americans. The exchange took place at the Lusaka International Airport.

The Angolans and the two Soviets, with nine coffins containing bodies of Cubans, Angolans and Soviets, were flown from Namibia through Johannesburg and arrived in Lusaka last night. The released American mercenaries boarded a UTA French airline bound for home through Paris after their formal release.

The exchange was organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross who negotiated with the Luanda government, the dissident UNITA group and the Pretoria regime for the release of the prisoners.

ZIMBABWE

BUSH PRAISES MUGABE, COMMENTS ON ANGOLA, NAMIBIA

MB170644 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The American vice president, Mr Bush, has praised the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, as a genuine statesman. Speaking at a state banquet given in his honor by Comrade Mugabe, Mr Bush said the prime minister is highly respected throughout the world. The American vice president commended Zimbabwe's policy of reconciliation as a noble (experiment). He promised Zimbabwe more American support to enhance peaceful change, economic development and the rule of law.

On Namibia, Mr Bush said the United States wants to see an end to South Africa's occupation of the territory and an end to Angola's suffering due to South Africa's invasion of the territory.